THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.
RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.
☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers, (per week) 15 cents; subscription by mail (per year), $10 00, postage pre paid.
☞ All Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.
TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 issues), $1 75, in Clubs of Twenty and over $1 25; postage pre-paid; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club.
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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 22, 1875. NO. 65.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for its payment.
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FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

THE LATE GALES—REPORTED LOSS OF LIFE CONTRADICTED—WRECKS ON THE ENGLISH COAST.

LONDON, November 20.—The recent gale around the coasts of Great Britain have been terribly destructive of life and property. Lloyd's agent at Dover telegraphs that is is believed thirteen vessels foundered in the Downs during the storm last night, and that forty or fifty lives were lost. It is estimated that five or six hundred vessels of all sorts are now anchored in the Downs, off Deal, waiting for fair weather.

LONDON, November 20, 6 P. M.—The first reports about the loss of life and foundering of vessels around the coast are happily unconfirmed. The *Shipping Gazette*, just published, announces that in response to a telegraphic inquiry the report of Lloyd's agent at Dover concerning the terrible loss of life and eleven shipwrecks is contradicted.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* this afternoon announces that the coast between Yarmouth and Lowestoft is strewn with wrecks. Three vessels are ashore on the Goodwin Sands.

THE RANGOON CONSPIRACY—NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHED TO THE AFFAIR.

LONDON, November 20.—The *Times*, in its second edition this afternoon, has a special telegram from Calcutta containing the following in regard to the alleged Burmese conspiracy at Rangoon: "The alarm there originated with a band of dakoits or robbers, who attempted to seize the arsenal. The affair is not believed to have any political significance."

ANOTHER NOTE FROM THE VATICAN TO SPAIN.

LONDON, November 22, 6 A. M.—A letter to the London *Times* reports that besides the Papal note concerning the Concordat and religious unity in Spain, published on the 11th instant, Spain had previously received a secret note from the Vatican which has not yet been printed.

MANY LIVES REPORTED LOST.

LONDON, November 22.—The late storms were most disastrous to fishing craft, especially on the east coast. Fourteen lives are already reported lost and many vessels missing. The brig Elizabeth was wrecked off Whitby, and the bark "Fairy Queen," off Calais. All on board of both vessels were lost.

PROGRAMME FOR SETTLEMENT OF TURKISH QUESTION.

LONDON, November 22.—A Berlin telegram to the *Times* says in the negotiations now proceeding for the settlement of the troubles in the Turkish provinces, the programme put forward by Austria includes a comparatively high degree of self-government for the Christian communities in Turkey. Russia seems to demand only a more faithful adherence to the promises of reform already made by them.

Spain.

THE FEELING IN MADRID—POLITICAL TRIALS IN CUBA.

MADRID, November 20.—It is stated that the Government has determined that all foreigners tried in Cuba for participating in the insurrection will be allowed to have counsel.

El Cronista says the last dispatch from Marshal Serrano was discussed at a Cabinet council yesterday. Meanwhile the present satisfactory situation promises a favorable and early settlement of all pending questions affecting the relations with the United States.

DON CARLOS ILL—A RUSSIAN OPINION.

LONDON, November 21.—Don Carlos is ill at Durango.

The *Golos*, of St. Petersburg, discussing the Eastern question, admits the cogency of the views of the English journals with regard to Egypt.

Cuba.

MOVEMENTS OF THE CAPTAIN GENERAL.

HAVANA, November 20.—Captain General Valmaseda went to the field of operations this morning. He was accompanied by Brigadier and Colonel Borbon, relatives of King Alfonso.

France.

DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

PARIS, November 21.—At a meeting of the Left yesterday, several deputies announced that on Monday after the third reading of the electoral bill, Minister Dufaure would propose that the Assembly proceed to fix a date of dissolution.

Austria.

DEATH OF DUKE OF MODENA.

VIENNA, November 21.—Francis V., Duke of Modena, who was dispossessed in 1860, is dead.

AUSTRIA WILL NOT INTERFERE.

LONDON, November 21.—A special dispatch to the *Times* from Vienna states that the reports of Austria's intended intervention in Herzegovina are unfounded.

Marine News.

ANTWERP, November 21.—The steamship Nederland, from Philadelphia, has arrived.

PLYMOUTH, November 21.—The steamship Pommerania, from New York, has arrived.

CASUALTIES.

A Powder Explosion.

POTTSVILLE, PA., November 21.—At Locustdale to-day, while several miners were sitting on a box containing powder incased in a small keg, a spark accidently dropped in the box, exploding the powder, which exploded instantly, terribly wounding the men. Alfred J. Steeley, John Durken and Mordecai Jones have since died. Samuel Tayra, also wounded, still lives, but his injuries are so severe it is believed he cannot possibly live.

Death in the Lamp.

TRENTON, N. J., November 21.—A kerosene oil lamp exploded in the shoemaker's shop kept by Conrad Zeigler, this evening, and injured six persons. One named George Ashmore will probably die.

Several Children Drowned.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 21.—The recent rains have caused the breaking of reservoirs near Stockton and Tautiuma, carrying away a number of bridges and houses, drowning several children and stopping travel.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—In the Ohio, Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, and Upper Lake region, high followed by falling barometer, east to south winds, stationary to rising temperature, partly cloudy weather, and from the Missouri Valley to Lake Superior possibly occasional snow.

The schooner Gerona is ashore on Beaver Island, Lake Michigan, and is reported in a bad condition.

Six Italians were arrested in New Orleans on Saturday, for passing counterfeit nickles, and imprisoned.

The number of hogs killed in Cincinnati, Ohio, since November 1st is 77,290; the same time last year, 75,080.

A newsboys and bootblacks' Sunday school was opened in Omaha, yesterday. Much interest is manifested in religious matters in that city.

The officers and crew of the ship John Paskal, destroyed by fire on the passage from Calcutta to New York, arrived at Boston yesterday on the ship Victoria.

It is reported Wallace & Co., wholesale dry goods dealers of New Orleans, have failed, with liabilities to the amount of $750,000, and assets amounting $500,000.

Reports from the West show a very heavy fall of snow and a severe storm, extending from Laramie City on the east to and beyond Corinne and Elko on the west.

On Saturday Peter Mallay, of Georgetown, Mass., was shot in the shoulder and probably fatally wounded by Stephen Furbush, who claims to have acted in self-defense.

Ten thousand persons attended the revival services of Moody and Sankey in Philadelphia yesterday. The streets in the vicinity were crowded, despite a drenching rain.

Two men named Chase and Sanders, of Perham, Arrostock county, Maine, froze to death last week. They started to go through the woods three miles and were found dead two days after.

A woman with a boy resembling Charlie Ross was arrested at Newtown yesterday, but was discharged. The child resembles the missing boy in everything except the color of the eyes.

O'Leary and Weston quit walking at Chicago at 11:20 on Saturday night, the former having made 503 miles and the latter 451¼. O'Leary made the last mile in thirteen minutes and ten seconds; Weston's last mile was made in sixteen minutes and ten seconds. O'Leary walked on Saturday seventy-eight miles, Weston sixty-one miles. The vast space of the Exposition building was well filled during the day, and in the evening the main room and galleries were crowded. The Secretary estimates the attendance in the evening at 25,000 persons.

THE WHISKY RING.

Evidence for the Defense in McDonald's Case Closed—William McKee on the Stand—He Denies All Personal Knowledge of the Ring—Never Received Any Money from It—Case to be Argued by Counsel To-Day.

ST. LOUIS, November 20.—Interest in the trial of General McDonald was as great to-day as on the previous one, and the court room was crowded. The first witness was William McKee, of the *Globe-Democrat*, who testified as follows: I am sixty years old; I have seen B. H. Engelke, but don't know him; that is to say, have never been frequently with him. I have never had any conversation with Engelke relative to the whisky ring. I know Joseph Fitzroy, and did know J. A. Joyce. I never received any money from Colonel Joyce for any illegitimate purpose upon any occasion; I never was paid any money in the presence of Fitzroy by Joyce; if Fitzroy stated that Joyce paid me $170 in his presence, and that I called attention to the fact that Fitzroy was present and that Joyce said that was all right and that I told Fitzroy that this is a sacred thing, he stated what was not true. I never had any such interview with Joyce, Fitzroy or McDonald. I never had any understanding or arrangement with McGrue, Leavenworth or Joyce, or anybody else, with reference to matters pertaining to the whisky ring.

On cross-examination the witness said: McGrue was introduced to me in 1870 by Geo. W. Fishback, who was my partner in the *Democrat*; I never visited him up stairs of the Bullitt's bank; I never was up stairs there. Joyce visited me at my office occasionally; neither Joyce nor Leavenworth ever paid me any money for campaign purposes or any other; I was not on any campaign commission; I never had any personal knowledge of the whisky ring, and knew nothing other than rumor and what was published in our paper about it. I had no conversation with Fitzroy about the time of the May session of the Grand Jury relative to what he was to testify; nor had I a conversation with any other party on that subject. As the head of a paper which represented the dominant party, I was of course frequently importuned to interfere in behalf of parties who got into trouble with the Government officials. About nine months ago, I think, Engelke called on me at my office, and wanted me to go to Maguire and use my influence with him to get some whisky released which had been seized, I think in Colorado; that is the only time I ever talked with him; didn't know him at that time, but was told who he was; went to Maguire for him, but accomplished nothing; never talked with anyone about the Busby distillery; called on Maguire once last May, at the Lindell Hotel, and had a general conversation with him. The interview was not arranged by Fitzroy; met him as I came out of the hotel, but told him nothing of the substance of my interview with Maguire. I never said anything to Maguire about his appearance before the Grand Jury. I may have seen Fitzroy since his appearance before the Grand Jury, but never had any conversation with him regarding it. On my return from the East this fall, I visited Fitzroy's house one evening, at the invitation of Maguire. I was on Maguire's bond, and having heard that Fitzroy was intending to plead guilty, I went to Maguire and told him that if he had been doing anything wrong he had better see Fitzroy, as I might get into trouble; so at Maguire's invitation I went with him to Fitzroy's house. The interview was very brief. Fitzroy didn't know what to do, and Maguire wanted to know whether or not he was going to plead guilty. I did not advise him. I had an interview with Maguire just before he went away in 1873, but it had nothing to do with the ring. I never had any conversation with McDonald about the whisky ring; that is, not anything different from what everybody else might have had in regard to the rumors. I never talked with Joyce on the subject at all; I only knew Joyce as a politician, and an active worker for the party. I am on good terms, I believe, with Fitzroy and Maguire, in fact, I have had difficulty with very few men in this world. I am under indictment in this court.

Constantine Maguire was the next witness, and testified, I am fifty years old, and have lived in St. Louis thirty-six years. I held the position of United States Collector of Internal Revenue from November 15, 1873, to June, 1874. Neither during my term of office or at anytime did I have any connection with what is known as the "Whisky Ring." I never received any money from that source. I never had any understanding, whatever, with Joyce, McDonald, Fitzroy or anybody else with regard to this subject.

Cross-examination—Fitzroy was deputy in my office when I took it, and I reappointed all my deputies. Fitzroy was indicted before I left the office. I did not remove him after he was indicted; I don't know what the indictment was for; both of us had already tendered our resignations to take effect June 30. I received a communication from Washington relative to the destruction of records in my office previous to my taking possession. I referred it to Concannon, who was in charge of the office during the interregenum between the death of Ford and my appointment. He wrote a letter to Washington about it, and accounted for it in some way; never gave me an explanation of the manner of the destruction. I am under indictment here.

Re-direct—Revenue Agents Brooks and Hoag examined Concannon thoroughly in my presence in reference to the destruction of the records. The records never were in my hands at all, having been destroyed before I took the office. As a result of the investigation Brooks and Hoag were about to recommend Concannon's dismissal, when he resigned.

Ex-United States Marshal C. A. Newcomb, the next witness, testified: I was appointed United States Marshal March 18, 1869, and continued in office until day before yesterday. I know Joyce, Fitzroy, Alfred Bevis, Teuscher and Jonnett. I do not believe I know Uhl. I never had any understanding with these men or anybody else relative to the whisky ring. I never received any money from anybody as coming from the whisky ring, not one cent, nor any other thing of value. During his cross-examination Mr. Newcomb said when he came into office General Noble, then District Attorney, was battling what was called a whisky ring, but from the time these cases were disposed of he heard little of the ring until 1875, when, in September of that year, a man named Brunson, who had been employed at Bevis & Fraser's distillery, repeated to him that crooked whisky had been made there, and he would give evidence to that effect. When he left Bevis & Frasier's employ he had given them a sworn statement that no illicit distilling had been done by them, in consideration of five thousand dollars to be paid him. They failed to carry out their agreement, and he wished to expose their frauds. This was reported to Attorney General Williams, and it was agreed that the witness and District Attorney Patrick should select a man to ferret out the frauds, he to be appointed by Commissioner Douglass. A man was selected, and Attorney General Williams telegraphed to that effect, and although the telegram was delivered, no reply was ever received. I often talked over these matters of fraud with Joyce, and once or twice with McDonald. Joyce always dismissed the subject with the statement that the stories were gotten up by officers whom they had discharged to injure himself and McDonald. Among these persons he mentioned McGrene and Hardaway. Both Joyce and McDonald assured me that these matters had been investigated, and that there was nothing in them. Whenever parties came to inform us of fraud, they always told us that Joyce and McDonald were in the ring, and should not be notified of any contemplated action. On account of these rumors, I had my suspicions of these two officials.

Re-direct examination—I never knew of McDonald placing any obstacle in the way of any investigation by me; he always said that the matter had been fully investigated, and that he didn't care how much it was looked into.

William Patrick testified as follows—I acted as United States district attorney from November, 1872, to May, 1875. I acted as Assistant District Attorney from 1869 until the time of my appointment. I never had any conversation or understanding with McDonald or anybody else which connected me with the whisky ring, and I never received money from any such sources. In the cross-examination Mr. Patrick gave a full history of the prosecutions of the ring or any of its members, so far as they came within his knowledge, up to the time of his removal, covering the case referred to by preceding witness, and giving details of the several efforts he had made, by himself and in connection with Collector Ford, to ferret out frauds.

Gen. R. V. N. Boynton was then called and testified: I am and have been the Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* since January, 1866. During this time I have been located almost continuously in Washington. I knew Con. McGreu in Washington, and know parties there with whom he is acquainted. His general reputation for truth and veracity is not good among those of his acquaintances whom I know. In a matter where McGreu is personally interested, I would not believe him under oath. On cross-examination, the witness said: I never heard any statement in regard to his swearing falsely; never heard of his being put upon oath until the present case. I have heard his reputation for truth and veracity discussed. When I speak of his reputation for truth, I don't speak from any knowledge of his swearing. I never knew of his being sworn.

Here the defense closed, and after Judge Treat had cautioned the jury of the necessity for the utmost circumspection in guarding against all outside influence, that they might come into court with unbiased minds to hear the suggestions of counsel, the court adjourned to Monday morning, when counsel will sum up the case.

Amended indictments were presented to the United States District Court against William McKee and Con. Maguire, and one against them jointly. Other indictments were also found, but against whom has not transpired. The three other indictments presented in the United States Court to-day, referred to in a previous dispatch, are alleged to be against revenue agents Brasher, Brooks and Hogue. The indictments against McKee and Maguire returned to-day are for conspiracy to defraud the Government. Both gentlemen entered into personal recognizance to appear on Monday and give bonds.

ST. LOUIS, November 20.—The rectifying establishment of Boesche & Co., in this city, was seized to-day for violation of the revenue law.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Latest Advices—United States Army Officers in Shanghai.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., November 20.—The Pacific Mail steamer China, from Hong Kong via Yokohama, arrived at this port to-day.

Advices to October 14 state that some of the rioters who destroyed the Great Northern Telegraph Company's property at Huang Row have been punished, but they are stated to have been drawn by lot.

The Chinese crew of the German schooner Anna, at a point near Foo Chow, mutinied, murdered the Captain and mate, and ran off with the vessel. The German dispatch boat Cyclops is in pursuit.

The United States army officers have visited Shanghai to inspect the Chinese military and naval armaments. They were courteously received, and subsequently proceeded for Penting.

Capt. Templar and the divers employed at the wreck of the steamship Japan have suspended operations for the season and returned to Hong Kong.

Nearly five thousand dollars had been collected at Shanghai for the sufferers by the floods in France.

The *Japan Gazette*, of October 23, confirms the reported sale of the Pacific Mail steamers to a Japanese company. It says the Golden Age, Oregonia and Costa Rica have been purchased by a local company, the Nevada being detained as the property of the Pacific Mail Company until the expiration of the existing mail contract. Freight and passage rates are already raised 200 per cent.

The exchange of the Kurile Islands for the southern part of Saghallen Island has been officially effected, and the Russian and Japanese Commissioners have returned.

The weather has been very cold. Snow fell in Yezo some days ago, a month earlier than last year.

The Japanese *Gazette* says: "We are informed in a quarter which we usually find reliable, that war with Corea is inevitable."

A PHILADELPHIA BRIDGE BURNED.

The Market Street Bridge Destroyed—Loss Half a Million Dollars.

PHILADELPHIA, November 20.—The wooden bridge across the Schuylkill river at Market street, connecting West Philadelphia with the eastern section of the city, was destroyed by fire this evening. A gas main was being laid across it, and the gas in the workmen took a lighted match to find a leak which had been noticed for some days, when the gas exploded, setting fire to the structure, and in three quarters of an hour it fell into the river. The bridge led directly to the Pennsylvania Railroad depot, and the company used it for bringing cars to the large commission houses on the eastern side of the river. It also afforded access to one of their largest freight depots. The structure was erected at about five hundred thousand dollars, and was insured for a small amount of money. On account of the great loss the burning of the bridge will cause to merchants in delaying their goods and impeding travel, Mayor Stokley has called a consultation of engineers for to-morrow, and a special meeting of the City Council for Monday, to take into consideration measures for immediately rebuilding the bridge. It was erected in 1805, and the original piers and woodwork remained up to to-day, except so much as was changed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who rebuilt the structure about fifteen years since, to accommodate their heavy cars. Martin Clifton, a farmer, and Patrick White, a workman, were injured.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

A Murder at Allentown.

ALLENTOWN, PA., November 23.—The wife of Mr. Joseph Schneck, a wealthy farmer living near Schneckville, a small village nine miles from this city, was murdered last night. It appears Mr. Schneck left home early in the morning on business, and returned after dark. Finding everything dark in the house, in groping about he stumbled over something, and stooping down he caught hold of a woman's dress. He immediately left the house and called the neighbors in, when Mrs. Schneck was found on the floor with several pools of blood near her head and shoulders, and sprinkled with blood. Her face was beaten into a shapeless mass. She was about sixty-two years old. There is no clue whatever to the perpetrators of the horrible crime. The husband offers $1,000 reward for the detection of the guilty parties.

Beaten and Robbed.

RICHMOND, VA., November 20.—William T. Tinsley, a country storekeeper in Chesterfield county, about six miles from Richmond, was terribly and probably fatally beaten and robbed last night by unknown parties. They enticed him from his residence to go to his store to make some purchases, and the assault was made between the two places. Tinsley was subsequently found over a roadside fence, where he had been thrown by his assailants. He was in a fearful condition, his head having been beaten with a heavy club, and his watch and money gone. The robbers had taken the key of the store, and carried off an amount of money from the store.

The Montpelier Lottery Fraud.

WASHINGTON, November 20.—The Alexandria committee to examine the books, papers, wheel and tickets of the Montpelier Female Humane Lottery Association, report that after a careful and complete examination of the same they find that a most gigantic fraud has been practiced on the ticket-holders, though they are unable to designate the guilty parties.

A Domestic Tragedy.

ERIE, PA., November 20.—Yesterday a German named Jacob Wamieyons, aged sixty, shot and fatally wounded his daughter, Anna, and then killed himself. Domestic troubles caused the tragedy.

Jerry Cruncher at Work in Montreal.

MONTREAL, November 20.—A vault in the Catholic cemetery of St. Denis has been broken into, and several corpses carried away.

War Between Confederate Generals.

RICHMOND, VA., November 20.—Just previous to the departure of the 9:20 P. M. northern bound train, an exciting scene occurred between Gen. Bradly T. Johnson and Gen. John D. Imboden. The latter, when going off on the train, was approached by Gen. Johnson, who, saying to Imboden he had been looking for him all day, administered sundry blows with a cowhide. Imboden made at Johnson, when the latter drew a pistol, but before he could use it both were separated and arrested. The cause of the assault is attributed to evidence given by Imboden in the contested election case between Johnson and Knight for seats in the State Senate.

Two Colored Men Mortally Wounded.

LOUISVILLE, November 21.—Two colored men, Willis Walls and Ben Harris, are reported, in a special telegram to the *Courier-Journal* from Danville, Ky., mortally wounded on Saturday night. When shot they were attempting a robbery, which the authorities had been informed by one Joshua Robertson, also colored, would take place. Robertson said he had overheard a conversation of others to commit a robbery, but they, who are now dying, state that the whole affair was planned by him. Their story is believed, and Robertson is now in jail.

Mother and Son to be Hanged.

UTICA, N. Y., November 21.—Lodicia and Albert Fredenberg, mother and son, are to be hanged at Herkimer on Friday, December 31, for the murder of Orlo Davis.

Fatal Result of a Foolhardy Undertaking.

COLUMBUS, O., November 21.—Wendelline Gaeger, a brewer, attempted to across the river by going hand over hand on a wire stretched fifty feet above the stream, when the wire cut his hands, he lost his hold, and was dashed to pieces on the rocks below.

A Ship's Crew Sick With Yellow Fever.

GALVESTON, November 20.—The British brig Mystic Tie, Capt. Perry, from Cienfuegos, Cuba, November 10th, arrived off the bar yesterday in ballast. The Captain reports to Dr. Blunt, the Health Officer, that his entire crew, including himself, nine in all, have had yellow fever. Three died in Cuba, one died this morning, two are still sick, but convalescing, and three, including the Captain, have recovered, and are on duty. The vessel is anchored a mile outside of Quarantine station, and Dr. Hunt has placed a nurse and watchman on board. The duty of the latter is to prevent communication with the shore or shipping until the vessel has been fumigated and disinfected.

Deer hunting in Pennsylvania will be illegal after November 30.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

What Naval Preparations Mean

Prospective Complications with Spain.

Her Desire for Revenge on South American States.

On Account of Their Recognition of Cuban Independence.

Our Commerce Thought to be Threatened.

Rules Covering Shipment of Petroleum.

A Better Steamboat Law Promised.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 21, 1875.

Rules Covering the Shipment of Petroleum.

The Secretary of the Treasury has received a number of letters from collectors of ports where petroleum enters largely into the articles of shipment. The department is now engaged in the preparation of a circular defining its position on this subject, and the rules to be observed. It is understood that these will not differ essentially from those now in vogue, but will seek to enforce greater responsibility on the part of local officers.

Secret Service Operations.

The Chief of the Secret Service, aided by Mr. Benson, is making out a report of the operations of the corps during the past year. It will show more effective work than during any preceding year. Some of the most important captures on record have been made.

New Steamboat Law.

There are indications of a renewed effort in favor of a new steamboat law, framed more in accordance with the Western steamboat interests than that now existing.

The Naval Preparations.

The continued naval preparations still excite uneasiness. It is learned that this warlike activity does not so much refer to pending questions of diplomacy with Spain, as prospective complications. Now that the civil war at home is drawing to a close, there seems to exist a determination on the part of the Spanish Government to carry on a war of revenge upon the petty South American States that had the temerity to recognize the independence of Cuba. Such a war would lead to almost incalculable damage to the commercial interests of the United States in a quarter of the globe where they are important and valuable. It is understood that the President has in mind the future peace and security of the country, and will recommend such measures as will secure that end. Therefore, while the situation is not exactly critical, the contingencies of the future, it is thought, should not be treated with indifference.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 20, 1875.

EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES—ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMISSIONER EATON —SAVINGS IN EXPENDITURES AND REASONS FOR INSTRUCTION—THE SCHOOLS OF THE SOUTH.

Hon. John Eaton, Commissioner of Education, has completed his annual report for the year 1875. It contains the usual abstracts of the reports of several State and City Superintendents and other educational institutions, together with the usual tables of statistics, coming as replies to inquiries addressed to various State and city educational officers and institutions, throughout the country. The Commissioner says: The benefits of a common nomenclature, adopted in reporting educational statistics, are becoming apparent. From the generalization of such a multitude of facts, derived from so many sources, the lessons can be read more easily to the surface. By this process existing excellences are shown and emulation is excited, while past errors are seen and admonish to self-improvement are aroused. The greater demand upon this office for information upon special topics has been met in part by the publication of eight pamphlets, containing in all 704 octavo pages.

The subdivision reports a marked tendency to abandon faulty and obsolete methods of instruction, and to adopt those more in harmony with natural development, and, at the same time, those better adapted to fit the pupils for the practical duties of life. During the year just closed a marked increase in the attention given to introduction of drawing in the public schools. A special report on drawing in these schools and illustrations in preparation by this office, and is nearly ready for publication. The statistical work of the office has greatly improved and been placed upon a more uniform basis the past year. Of the particular inquiries sent to schools of learning, asylums, reformatories, &c., in addition to the regular inquiries in regard to public school systems, there were nearly 6,000. In addition to the regular work of the office, one of its subdivisions had been engaged in preparing a special report on public education in the United States, including those of schools, colleges, &c., and has received the cordial co-operation of all who are interested in these important questions of education. The Commissioner says he feels the liveliest sympathy with the embarrassments which are encountered in the States in which slavery has been more recently abolished, and urgently recommends that the General Government devise some measures of aid to relieve the financially saddened. He affirms the utter impossibility of accomplishing the amount of work now performed in the office were it not for the gratuitous labor performed by the corps of educators in different parts of the country, and states that no other year has brought so many testimonials of the utility of the work to the people. He asks that such a reasonable increase of clerical force be made as will enable the office more satisfactorily to accomplish its work. The exhibit of the Bureau of Education to the International Exhibition has been two-fold; first, the educators of the country have naturally made it a medium for arranging all the diverse projects and plans for the showing of educational methods, appliances, and results; and, second, the preparation of such limited but correct reports on the various systems, classes of institutions, and phases of education as would be of permanent value.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 21, 1875.

HARD MONEY—REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINT.

The annual report of the Director of the Mint shows a coinage of gold of $33,533,055; silver, $10,070,368; minor pieces, $230,375; total, $43,854,708. The deposits were: Gold, $38,556,293; silver, $16,070,626. Additional vaults are required in the treasury offices in various parts of the country, for the storage of silver coin, in view of the contemplated resumption of specie payment. The addition of assaying facilities to the New Orleans mint is suggested. The Director says: The two years' yield of the mines will, it is probable, furnish sufficient silver to manufacture all the fractional currency coin that can be advantageously used in the country after the redemption of fractional notes. The trade dollar coinage should be continued, if for no other purpose than to make a local market for silver. The purchase of silver bullion from January 14th to October 31, 1875, amounted to $8,349,747, at an average price with refining charge added for done bullion of one dollar, eleven cents and four mills per ounce, standard, the coinage rate of fractional silver coin being one dollar, twenty-four cents and four mills per standard ounce. The seignonage or gain in its coinage will be thirteen cents per ounce, or about twelve per cent. The total expenditure attending the manufacture of coinage of the last fiscal year, $43,854,708, was $389,370, or about sixty per cent. of the expenses of maintaining a fractional currency. In this estimate the seignonage realized on the silver and minor coinage, $436,105, has not been considered. The propriety of increasing the amount of ten-dollar gold pieces is suggested for the consideration of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Director speaks at length of the course of gold and silver during the last three years, saying the monetary troubles have not been caused by insufficient supplies of gold, but by its having been withheld in large sums from circulation, and the diminished use of silver as money. The new coinage system of Germany is mentioned as one of the chief causes, and the delay in its consummation is attributed mainly to the action of neighboring countries as practically closing what it is expected would be the best and largest market for silver. The manufacture of the new standard national coins has already amounted to about $285,000,000. The coins, however, have not gone into general circulation to the extent originally expected, for the reason that the old standard silver coins, which are inferior in value, continue under provision of the new monetary law to be effective money in payments. Gold has, therefore, to a great extent been held in the imperial treasury, mints and banks. The gold standard is to go into effect throughout the entire Empire on the first of January, 1876, in accordance with the imperial decree of September 22d, 1875, and which would appear to indicate the employment at an early day of more decided measures than heretofore for the withdrawal of the depreciated legal-tender silver coins. When the complete demonetization or withdrawal of these depreciated silver coins shall have been accomplished, gold will enter freely into the channels of circulation, and money affairs resume their usual course. The sooner the German monetary reform now in progress is completed, and the Bank of France resume specie payments, the better it will be for Germany, France and the United States. The time fixed for resumption in France is January, 1878, but it is probable it will take place before the time specified. Whenever the German Empire shall have its great monetary reform well under way, and France sets free her immense specie reserve, the active demand for gold will no doubt cease, and the United States may then safely undertake the requisition of a sufficient stock of coin for the resumption of specie payment.

A MEXICAN OUTRAGE.

A Company of Texas Troops Cross the Rio Grande in Pursuit of Cattle Thieves—The Mexican Authorities Treat Them as Outlaws and Filibusters—Movements of United States Troops.

ST. LOUIS, November 20.—A Galveston special states that Captain McNally, of the Texas State troops, who crossed the Rio Grande river yesterday in pursuit of cattle thieves, and whose command had a fight, killing four Mexicans, to-day surrounded and shut off from the river without food. McNally to-day asked permission of the Mexican authorities to be allowed to return to the Texas side, which was refused, and his unconditional surrender demanded.

His command are considered as outlaws and filibusters, and will only be treated with as such. Meantime troops have started from Monterey and Matamoras for Los Cuevas, near where McNally's command of thirty-one men is surrounded. In fact, the whole Mexican population is under arms and hurrying from all quarters. Ere twenty-four hours have passed several thousand Mexicans will have gathered around Los Cuevas. Several United States troops are within easy support on the Texas side of the Rio Grande. Forty of them crossed yesterday morning to assist in covering McNally's retreat, but were ordered back and left him to his fate. The troops have no orders from Washington authorizing them to cross. Captain McNally is a brave and loyal citizen officer, by whom, with his command, the Rio Grande and Dewitt county troubles were quelled. During the late Confederate war McNally commanded one of Ford's scouts consisting of picked men, and was often complimented for gallantry. Should the Mexicans determine upon his capture they will pay heavily for their outrage. The cattle thieves he was pursuing were seen crossing the river by the troops, and, though demanded from the Mexicans several days ago by the United States officials, have not yet been surrendered.

GALVESTON, November 20.—The following was received from San Antonio to-day. The following dispatch was received at headquarters this morning: Major Alexander, who has arrived at Los Cuevas, reports that forty men of the Eighth Cavalry crossed the river this morning before his arrival, by Randlett's order. Major Clendennin having left for Ringgold to support McNally, who was driven by the Mexicans to the river. Any firing done in violation of orders given by me yesterday morning. I have directed Major Alexander to return the troops to the north bank. He has answered. This will be done immediately. I have carried out your instructions in regard to the surrendering of thieves and returning of property." Major Alexander also reports a large number of troops concentrating in front of him.

[Signed] POTTER, Commanding.

It is by no means improbable that the Mexicans may take the offensive. Los Cuevas is a notorious den of Cortina and his robbers. Not less than 1,000 men could be assembled there by him on short notice.

GALVESTON, November 21.—The special telegrams received yesterday from Brownsville, stating that Captain McNally was cut off and surrendered near Los Cuevas, appear to have been merely rumors obtained through Mexican sources. Within 10 hours received up to a late hour last night from the commanding officer of the United States forces in front of Los Cuevas report that Captain McNally was rescued by the American side of the river with his command all right.

IMPORTANT CASE DECIDED.

A Verdict for the Government Against Ex-Treasury Agent Burbridge.

LOUISVILLE, KY., November 20.—The case of the United States against O. H. Burbridge *et al.* was called in court yesterday, and the verdict of the jury was rendered. The case has been in court since April 1768. Shortly after the war O. H. Burbridge was appointed a Special Supervising Agent of the Treasury Department, with headquarters at New Orleans. It was alleged by the Government that while in office Burbridge sold cotton belonging to the Government, amounting in value to $46,000, which he had never accounted for, thereby failing to give bond, and shut off from the river without food. McNally to-day asked permission of the Mexican authorities to be allowed to return to the Texas side, which was refused, and his unconditional surrender demanded.

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The Commercial.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1875.

THE exports from Philadelphia last week amounted in value to $698,489.

GOV. ALLEN is suffering from an attack of chills and fever at his home near Chillicothe. He experienced the first chill on the night of October 12th.

"BRICK" POMEROY is no longer a brick. His extravagance has transmogrified him into a bad egg. He has failed for $140,000 and has no assets but his old clothes.

THE smaller hotels of New York are complaining of lack of custom. If they would try the experiment of cheaper rates they would probably find less reason to complain.

IT APPEARS that some of the New Hampshire Democrats are urging discontinuance of the State Normal School. That party never yet had three pecks of modern ideas on the subject of education, anyhow.

IT WAS not the prevalence of "cholera" at Mysore and Madras which put a premature stop to the tour of the Prince of Wales in India. It was the prevalent "choleric" attitude of the native princes.

THE Republicans of Illinois are going right to work in earnest to organize on a working basis for next year's campaign. By preparing for the canvass thus early, earnestly, honestly and ably, they deserve and will achieve success.

THE best way in which to manifest our Thanksgiving gratitude is by a broad charity for our neighbor, full and free, remembering that "only the foolish ask is this one of us, or an outside person?" To the noble the whole world is a family.

AN INTERESTING, but by no means gratifying table of our purchases in France for the year ending September 30, 1875, appears in the Philadelphia *Press* of the 19th. The total reaches $61,767,484, of which upwards of fifty millions was for fancy goods and useless trumpery, against less than eleven millions worth of articles of real necessity.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette* says that if the coal of Southern Ohio can be successfully coked, the iron furnaces of that region can lay down iron in that city at $17 a ton. An invention has recently been tried which is said to work well in coking a coal which abounds in sulphur and slate, and the Ynton Furnace has used it successfully. One experiment of that kind, however, is by no means conclusive.

JUDGING from the efforts already made, and the interest taken in the Educational Department of the Centennial, it promises to prove the most attractive and important part of the Exhibition. No other certainly will be studied by intelligent foreigners with greater thoroughness, or will give to them a better idea of the real progress of our country in the elements which lie at the foundation of national life.

"WE HAVE long since," says the Vicksburg *Herald*, "forgiven the North for licking us, but the North has never forgiven us for being so infernally hard to lick." This is not true. In the first place the South had nothing to forgive the North for, unless it was the discharge of its duty, and in the second place, people who have really "forgiven" others are not in the habit of talking about it.

ACCORDING to a statement made by ex-Senator BROWNLOW, the Treasury of Tennessee is empty, the interest on the State debt unpaid, and the only obligations there now attempted to be met by the State authorities are current expenses. This, with a taxable property equal to three hundred millions, he justly characterizes as a shame and disgrace; but the Democratic government of Tennessee does not seem to think it anything out of the usual course of things.

CONGRESS assembles two weeks from to-day. Indications daily thicken that the Democratic majority in the House will be thoroughly dominated by the most vicious elements of the party. It seems impossible for that party to bring about any reform within itself. Its worst men will not be shaken from its control, and its best members are invariably overpowered:

Crimes leads to greater crimes, and link so straight,
What first was accident, at last is fates:
Guilt's helpless servant sinks into a slave,
And virtue's late sad strugglings cannot save.

THE courts of Kentucky have just decided the local option law to be unconstitutional, on the ground that it is not uniform, and that the State Legislature has no power by its enactments to constitute an act an offense in one county or township, and to punish it as such, which in another county or township may be lawfully done. The Court of Appeals of California recently took precisely a similar position in reference to the local option law of that State. "When doctors disagree, who shall decide?"

THE foreign commerce of New York, last week, was as follows: Merchandise imports, $4,718,735; produce exports, $4,832,890, and specie exports, $397,500. The total imports of merchandise since the first of January have been $239,241,778, against $353,430,040 for the corresponding period last year. The total exports of produce since the beginning of the year have been $222,146,117, against $256,158,088 in 1874, and the total exports of specie during the same period are $66,096,121, against $47,422,556 for the relating period of last year.

BISHOP WHIPPLE, of Minnesota, who knows thoroughly whereof he speaks, has addressed to the President a letter which contains a very strong indorsement of the Indian policy of the administration. He claims that this policy has proved a pronounced success. This is square to the point. As the Washington *Star* observes, however, he mixes things a little when he adds:

"Now a dishonest agent is a marked exception. Thousands are learning to five as civilized men, and among them are many as true Christians as can be found among the whites."

IT WILL be recollected that, by fraudulent Democratic voting in Wood county, Ohio, the election of both Republican State Senators was made doubtful, and one of the Democratic candidates began a suit in contest. The trial was to have come off last Friday, and indeed was begun, when the contestant, becoming convinced that it would be a hard matter to prove the honesty of 3,000 votes in a precinct which had been polled more than 900, threw up the suit and withdrew from the contest. This settles all dispute as to Senators from the district, and both of the Republican Senators will take their seats.

THE last report of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry shows that the Order contains a trifle over 24,000 granges, with a membership estimated at 1,500,000. Of these about 700,000 are women. The minimum age is eighteen, but a proposition has recently been made to establish a subordinate degree or order, the Cadets of Husbandry, so as to let in young people down to the age of fourteen. To the South and North Grange is practically identical with the agricultural population. In the East, where the agriculturalists feel less powerfully the need for combination and co-operation, the order is not so strong numerically.

THERE is no possibility of magnifying the danger from which we have escaped by the refusal of King ALPHONSO to accept the offer of DON CARLOS to unite with him and give the United States a good thrashing. If that Spanish General BUTLER could only be uncorked and let out of the bottle in which he is now cooped up in the south of Spain, he might, by a sudden descent upon New Jersey or Delaware, put the whole nation in peril. Happily for us King ALPHONSO does not want to have such a dangerous fellow at large, and the great buccaneer remains securely hemmed in the little corner of Spain that yet remains to him.

A PRIVATE letter from England states that, owing to the late disastrous shrinkage in Turkish and Egyptian securities, amounting in the last five months to the enormous total of £48,000,000, a feeling of insecurity and almost panic has been created among the holders of Spanish and South American stocks, reaching a total of £225,000,000, and principally held in England. This, added to the great mercantile losses in Great Britain during the past year causes a grave apprehension of trouble in moneyed circles in that country. It looks considerably as though our English cousins were destined to experience, in 1876, a portion at least of the financial reverses which we met in 1873. How this will affect our own interests remains to be seen, but it would not be surprising if, among other things, it compelled heavy sales of our Government securities for English account to realize on for active necessities; a condition of things of which the German bankers, in their excellent condition and with their predilection for United States securities, would be quick to take advantage.

THE TWO-THIRDS RULE.

The "two-thirds rule," which prevails in Democratic National Conventions and which requires a two-thirds vote to nominate a candidate for President, is a rock ahead in the Democratic channel. There is no such thing apparently as getting rid of it, and yet there is danger that the party vessel will be wrecked upon it. The soft-money Democrats base all their hopes upon it. If they can't get the desired number of votes for an inflationist, they feel sure of preventing the hard-money faction from doing it and hope thereby to force a compromise upon some one of the fence sitters. The Louisville *Courier-Journal* sees this, evidently, for it calls the two-thirds rule the "evil genius of adversity, the spirit of rule or ruin, first to distract and then to destroy," and demands its abandonment because "it has done mischief enough." It adds: "Shall we never learn anything? Shall we always go on multiplying errors and pursuing humbugs in an endless circuit of blunderous disaster? Are we hopelessly debauched and incapable of all wholesome self-inspection?"

The two-thirds rule was the invention of the slaveholders, and was forced by them in the days when they were dominant upon the party for the purpose of enabling them to control, absolutely, the party nominations. They had more than a third of the votes in a National Convention; and with the two-thirds rule in force they could prevent the nomination of any one objectionable to them. The Northern Democrats submitted to this degradation, because they could maintain party unity only in that way, and the Southern delegates were always, consequently, able to dictate the names of the national candidates of the party.

So long as slavery lasted this rule was essential to Southern domination; but the occasion for it having passed away, the necessity for maintaining it on that account no longer exists, but it will not be given up. Its sole effect, now, is to give to a faction or a fraction of the party the power of controlling the whole body; and as this is a great and valuable power there is little reason for supposing it will be readily surrendered. Those who are neither factious nor fractious, now, do not know how soon they may be either one or the other, and all of that class will hold on to a rule which gives such peculiar privileges to the minority. This relic of slave rule which has come down to us from the days of the Slave Power, will therefore most likely be adhered to. The slavishness which submitted to its imposition, originally, still exists, and the Democratic leaders will not be slow to take advantage of it.

It is, perhaps, a good sign, to see the Southern Democrats restive under this rule. The first demand for its repeal comes from the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, and the Cincinnati *Enquirer* may well retort upon it that the rule came from that source, at first. If it has returned to plague the inventor, and the engineer is likely to be "hoist by his own petard," so much the worse for the inventor and the engineer. The Southern politicians taught their Northern brethren the knowledge of the force that can be concentrated in a compact minority, and they must not now be surprised to see their pupils put their education into practice. If the two-thirds rule was useful to the slaveocracy, it may prove just as useful in the hands of those who learned their political cunning under their Southern masters.

THE Savings Banks of the city of New York and vicinity have been consulting together about the propriety or the necessity of reducing the rate of interest paid by them to their depositors. They have not yet concluded on any definite course in the matter; but when they do, it is presumable their example will be followed by the Savings Banks throughout the country. The New York *Times* says:

"It is now some time since these institutions have been able, on a safe, to earn the rate of interest they have been paying, which has generally been six per cent., though some of the soundest and oldest of them have only paid four per cent. and five per cent. Those that have kept up the higher rate have probably in some instances drawn on reserves accumulated during the period when United States bonds paid very high currency interest on the actual cost, and when good mortgages on real estate were purchased at figures which materially increased the nominal revenue from them. Neither of these advantages is now to be had. Savings banks ought in all cases to divide among their depositors only the profits from investments, after laying aside such a reserve as is necessary for reasonable security. The announcement of a predetermined rate of interest is a feature foreign to the principles that ought to control their management; but it is not necessarily an unsafe practice, and is now very widely adopted. If it is to be adhered to, the rate should always be so low as to be absolutely within the limit of earnings, over and above no requisite reserve."

Wallace's Monthly.

No. 2 of *Wallace's Monthly*, for November, has been received from the publisher, Benjamin Singerly. It contains, among others, articles on "Stony Stud Farm," with illustrations; "A Genuine St. Bernard Dog," with picture; "Darwinism Illustrated;" "Jersey Cattle at Home;" "How the Trotters are Shod, and How they are Worked and Fed;" "A Prevalent Fraud and its Remedy;" "A Mile in a Minute;" "Horse Breeding by European Governments;" "Origin of Instinct," by Prof. Joseph Le Conte; "The American Turf," etc., etc. To those who own or admire fine horses this publication cannot fail to be of interest and profit. It is well edited, and handsomely printed.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The list of German exhibitors at the Centennial numbers 1,140.

The Granger commission system of buying and selling has been a failure.

And now the Indiana segement of the sinuous whisky circle is in the toils.

The President doesn't want a war with Cuba. He is simply partial to an Havana.

Why don't the third-termagants of the opposition press give their crippled brains a rest?

Have a ride? There are four hundred and fifty miles of street railway in New York city.

The Chicago crooked whiskyites will get their slice of the day of judgment in about two weeks.

Since it costs such a great deal of money to keep our streets in repair, why are they not kept in repair?

Turkeys should keep right round the house, these days; the folks may want them at any time, now.

The signal office reports frosts frequent as far South as the southern portions of Georgia and Alabama.

Two weeks from to-day eighty-three ex-Confederates will assume control of the House at Washington.

Woman's rights. Anna Hollinshied is to be hanged in St. Louis next month for murdering Christian Alband.

Don't take 'em in change. Counterfeit $100 bills on the Central National Bank, of New York, are in circulation.

A New England paper says: "When you kill a printer you make an angel." Suppose he should be the devil?

The British and American garrison buildings on San Juan Island, will be sold by order of the Government, to-day.

Carrying fish to Newfoundland seems to be almost as absurd as carrying "coals to Newcastle." Yet it is now being done.

The partial census of last year indicates quite clearly that the progress of our population has received a temporary check.

Shame. The effort to raise a fund for a statue to Horace Greeley is a total failure, and the little money given has been returned.

San Francisco is jubilant over the near completion of the first ship ever built at that port. The vessel will be 1,000 tons measurement.

Those mash-tub worms of which Col. Joyce spoke are beginning to crawl over the dead gladiators of the crooked whisky ring, awful bad.

Recovering. Five large vessels upon the stocks at Boston are so nearly finished that they can be made ready for launching in a few days.

The question of sewerage, so ably discussed at the National Health Convention, lately, is attracting marked attention in every community.

The indications are that the next Clerk of the House of Representatives will be a man officially identified with the late rebel Confederacy.

The bottom falling out. Over half the puddling furnaces in the north of England have stopped, or given notice of stoppage to their employees.

Is the bruised Reid to be broken? There is a rumor that Whitelaw will sever his connection with the New York *Tribune* on the first of January.

The Orthodox Friends have been holding a Sunday school convention in Philadelphia. A Quaker Sunday school! is not that also a sign of progress?

While the other tribes are decreasing year by year and gradually fading away, the Sioux Indians, on the other hand, are steadily increasing in numbers.

The United States District Court for Mississippi excludes from the jury panel all who cannot read, write and compute interest. The rule shuts out a good many Democrats.

The Illinois Supreme Court has recently decided against the constitutionality of the State law making railroads liable for burial expenses of persons who die or are killed on their cars.

The infallible Democratic New York *World* sets down Senator Howe as a Senator from Michigan, and in order to make sure of its blunder, speaks of him twice in that connection.

Infamous. The Louisville *Commercial* charges the friends of the Democratic candidate for Mayor of that city with sending to his Republican opponent a letter containing small-pox scabs.

Timothy Titcomb hits the nail on the head when he says that the best way to get rid of drunkards is to stop raising them. The true field for temperance labor for women is among the children.

Nothing like leather. American tanners are now sending the best oak-sole to all parts of Europe, and selling it at a profit, with orders ahead indicating that the trade has been most satisfactory.

A number of vessels are to be constructed, each with a carrying capacity of 38,000 bushels, for the purpose of opening a direct trade between Chicago and Liverpool, in grain and other commodities, via the St. Lawrence river route. It won't pay.

The *Inter-Ocean* inquires: "What does the Washington *Chronicle* mean by crediting Henry M. Watterson to Tennessee?" He was once a temporary resident of that State, Uncle Sam's troops having caused him to leave Kentucky hastily for the benefit of his health.

A new venture. The steamship Illinois, which sailed from Philadelphia for Europe on Thursday, had among her cargo thirty dressed beeves, one hundred and fifty dressed sheep and a large quantity of poultry and oysters, which it is proposed to land in good condition by means of refrigerating apparatus.

Innovation on Pittsburgh Rules.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Our city has long enjoyed and deserved the reputation of being a center of orthodoxy and established usages, of good principles and corresponding practices. Our people are a law-abiding community, and are not likely to be carried away by every wind of doctrine. They incline to hold on to the good that we have and bear existing evils rather than run to those they know not. During all the abolition agitation, they bore, patiently, with all the incendiary harangues of the most hot headed fanatics, when our Southern trade was at stake and the patriots of Boston, New York and Philadelphia were dragging Garrison through the streets to hang him, sacking dwellings and burning hails in defense of every "man's right to whip his own nigger."

Pittsburgh never had had a mob, and was not going to change her customs even at the bidding of our Southern brethren, who then owned us all, and this is but one in a long list of instances in which she has stuck to established usages, stuck to them until any change would seem to argue a dangerous departure from fixed principles; and this morning (Thursday, 18th of November, 1875), I was startled by witnessing with my own eyes an act which must indicate a much more radical "new departure" than even that of the Democracy when they deserted their hard-money professions.

Since the very beginning of the city government she has been wont to employ gangs of men to scrape up mud on the streets, and make it into small mounds, in two rows, at regular intervals, to be rolled out by passing hoofs and wheels and spread abroad, to be once more scraped up and formed into mounds, then rolled out and distributed. All through my childhood it was a matter of unfailing interest to watch the men, with the scrapers, making these little mounds, and I trouble not to see the wheels go through them and spoil their form. The street always appeared nicest when these small land marks were new; and I thought long to see the queer, old men at work on them again with their scrapers. It was their way of making mud piles, and it was very amusing to watch them.

Well, this morning, I saw, on the corner of Market street and Fifth avenue, two men down in a sewer opening, throwing up great shovels full of that black, city mud which is found in no other city in such perfection of nastiness, owing, probably, to its great antiquity, and the innumerable number of times it has been made into mounds and distributed; and, in throwing it up, they made a regulation mound of it, such as have decorated our streets once or twice a year, ever since we had streets; but will anyone believe it? There was a cart into which another man was throwing it about half as fast as it came up.

I could scarce believe my eyes, knew they were growing dim, rubbed them and stopped to gaze. Yes! sure enough that mud was being thrown into a cart, and the police officer, who was overseeing the job, told me they were going to take it away. He seemed so like an honest, sensible fellow that I believed him, and passed on; but after I had gone a square I went back, and sat in a store to see if such an innovation could be tolerated. Sure enough! the cart was driven off with merely one-half of that mound in it, and I was given to understand that it would return and take away the balance before noon.

I was so surprised that I did not get the policeman's number, or I should report him for dismissal. It cannot be possible that the authorities authorized this indecent haste!

Why was not that mud left there to be spread out by passing wheels, dried and blown about for people to breathe, or washed back into that same opening to be again dug out and thrown up? There was plenty of material to have furnished that corner with a freshly made mound every week, or month, or day for a century, if it had been properly husbanded; and now it has been carted off and dumped out of sight! Such an innovation on established customs must have a deep-seated cause which should be sought out, lest it break forth into some still more dangerous manifestation.

JANE G. SWISSHELM.

ABOUT METEORS.

Why the November Shower Could Not be Expected this Year—The August Visitations.

The Worcester (Mass.) *Spy* says: "The great November shower of 'falling stars' or meteors cannot be expected this year. It comes once in about thirty-three or thirty-four years and appears about the 12th, 13th or 14th of November for three years in succession, the shower of the first year being much more brilliant than the others. Humboldt and Bonpland, being on the coast of South America, observed a wonderfully brilliant display November 13, 1799, and fainter showers could be seen about that time in each of the two following years. The next of the great November meteoric showers came November 12, 1833, and was generally observed. The next great display was observed November 14, 1867. Of course, the next of these November displays cannot be expected until about the year 1900 or 1901. The November showers always appear to come from a point in the constellation of Leo. The explanation of these 'falling stars,' given by most intelligent astronomers is that the meteors come from a cosmical 'cloud' or body that revolves around the sun, and comes in contact with our atmosphere once in about thirty-three or thirty-four years, and occupies three years in passing across the earth's orbit. This 'cosmical cloud' is really a comet, which, according to the astronomers to whom we have referred came into our solar system in January, 126, A. D., and passed so near the planet Uranus as to be brought by its attraction into an elliptic orbit round the sun.' Since 126, A. D., this 'cosmical cloud' or comet has made fifty-two revolutions round the sun, the actual time of each revolution being thirty-three years and a few months. Its elliptical orbit extends from a point in the orbit of Uranus, on one side of the sun, to the earth's orbit on the opposite side, touching that part of the earth's orbit where the earth is about the 13th of every November. It is only during the last 1,749 years that this cosmical or cometary 'cloud' has been a fixed portion of the solar system.

"There is another 'cosmical cloud' or cometary body, which has become a complete ring of meteoric matter, and in this form revolves round the sun. This cosmical or cometary ring touches that part of the earth's orbit which the earth reaches about the 10th of every August. This explains the 'falling stars' that can be seen every year about that time. These August meteors appear to come from a point in the constellation of Perseus. They are not equal to the November showers in abundance or brilliancy. They can be seen every year, because the cosmical cloud ring from which they come is continuous. This ring has been observed as a comet, but is described as 'the remains of the comet out of which the meteoric ring of the 10th of August has been formed in the course of time.' The nucleus, or what remains of it, was visible in August, 1852; it becomes visible only once in every 120 years, thus appearing to be the time of its revolution round the sun. The meteoric shower of August lasts only about six hours, this being the time occupied by the earth in going through and away from the meteoric ring. Much smaller meteoric clouds, and even solitary meteoric substances, it is said, revolve round the sun, and at irregularities, many of which are early, or so feel its attraction that they or portions of them are brought into our atmosphere to shine and be evaporated as meteors, or to fall to the earth as 'meteoric stones.' Most of these meteors are very small; but, occasionally, very heavy meteoric stones have fallen. There is an account of one, weighing 501 pounds, that fell in Hungary, and four or five much heavier have been found in New Mexico, the weight of the heaviest of these being estimated at 'five tons.' Another of the New Mexican meteoric stones weighs about 'four thousand pounds.' The great five-ton meteorite mentioned above is said to be composed of 'ninety-five per cent. of iron and five per cent. of nickel, including a little cobalt.'"

PERSONAL.

Another club scandal excites the social world in London, a young man of noble family having been detected with his hand in another member's pocket. He resigned at once and the affair was hushed up as far as possible.

It is now stated that Joyce, the convicted whisky swindler, last summer made a hurried and secret trip from Green Bay, Wis., to New York, and was in the act of stepping on a steamer bound for Liverpool when a detective touched him on the shoulder and led him away. He had been shadowed unawares.

Oakey Hall, ex-recorder, ex-district attorney and mayor of New York at the time when that bloated Silenus Tweed flourished at the expense of groaning tax-payers has written a play, and is going on *the stage*. He makes his first appearance as the hero in his own play, at the Park Theatre, in the limitation of one hundred nights of the "Mighty Dollar." Report also adds that one of Oakey Hall's daughters makes her debut in the piece.

It looks very much as though the whisky frauds in St. Louis and the trials incident thereto would result in several duels. Clyde, of the *Republican*, has issued a card in which he calls Hutchins, of the *Times*, a perjurer, a blackmailer and a scoundrel. "Mack" also publishes a card denouncing Grosvenor as a coward, a rascal and a liar. Viewed from a whisky standpoint, there would be fun in it, if no alternative left but for somebody to fight.

Where there's a will there's a way. Six years ago Mrs. Mary Ahart, a colored woman, lived in a tent, and her worldly possessions consisted of two cows and calves, a straw bed and two or three boxes, which served as chairs. She sold milk and carried it round herself, by this means supporting herself and family. She now has several hundred head of cattle, a fine farm well stocked and thoroughly improved and a comfortable home, and is reported to be somewhere in the neighborhood of $50,000, every cent of which has been earned or gained by industry and good management.

This is from a late Oregon paper. It is very good: A genius has set up a galvanic battery on Government street, Victoria. A sad-eyed Minister of the Crown was observed to pause in his walk and gaze intently at the machine. He held in his hand a telegram of the Yale and Cariboo elections. "Want a shock, sir?" asked the man in attendance. "Shock! shock!" exclaimed the minister, excitedly, "I've had shock enough." "Oh, are you in this line, sir?" queried the man. "Do you go round shocking people as I do?" "No," exclaimed the minister, "by heavens, the *people go round shocking me!*"

Sam. Randall, Pennsylvania's Democratic candidate for the Speakership of the next House of Representatives of the United States, is described as a man over six feet in height, and about 185 pounds in weight; forty-seven years old, active and energetic for his age; stoop-shouldered and loosely built; face clean shaven, sallow and wrinkled with much scheming and thought; head good sized, with short black hair, slightly tinged with gray; voice very shrill and metallic; a poor talker, but his dogged earnestness and untold courage make him always a prominent figure in the foreground of the debate.

DECEMBER MAGAZINES.

THE ATLANTIC.

Mr. James' fine story of "Roderick Hudson," being finished in this number of the *Atlantic*, the interest of the "serial" reader is directed to "Private Theatricals," which shows all the best characteristics of its author, Mr. Howells. But a more important and impressive serial is Mr. Sanborn's account of John Brown's Campaign in Virginia, which is more than usually interesting in this number, where the old hero is brought to the foot of the gallows. Mrs. Kemble's "Old Woman's Gossip" loiters still among her youthful memories, but is very entertaining. "H. H." Mrs. Helen Hunt Jackson] contributes a pleasant article, with an affected title, about Colorado, and there are articles by Boyesen, Clay, Higginson, Aldrich, C. P. Cranch and others, while there is also much good reading in the literary and art departments. The promise of the *Atlantic* for 1876 is very rich, and the publishers, Messrs. H. O. Houghton & Co., announce also a splendid portrait of Longfellow, which the subscribers to the magazine alone will get at a very reasonable rate.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

An article by Prof. Tyndall, on "Martineau and Materialism," and one by Herbert Spencer, on "Idol-Worship and Fetich-Worship," are the chief features of the December number of this magazine. Both are radical, and that is the tone also of the editorial and critical articles. Along with these, however, there is much matter in the number that is simply scientific and deserves to be popular.

LIVING AGE.

The weekly visits of *Littell's Living Age* are always welcome, and to the reader in the country they are particularly so. Each number contains the very best articles to be found in the British periodicals, making it wholly superfluous to subscribe for any of them. In the number before us there are good articles from *Blackwood, Macmillan, the Cornhill, Temple Bar, Spectator, Saturday Review* and other first-class publications. Messrs. Littell & Gay, Boston, are the publishers.

The Cuyahoga Falls Wire Works are running to their full capacity, night and day, and are still unable to keep up with their orders. They recently refused an order for 5,000 pounds of fine wire per month for the season.—*Akron, O., Beacon.*

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Among American remedies, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters occupies what may not inaptly be termed and impregnable position. The foundations of its popularity are laid so deep in the public confidence, its excellence has been so frequently and conclusively demonstrated under the most trying circumstances, and it has been so long known to the public as a standard article, that neither the slurs occasionally cast upon proprietary medicines, nor the attempts of certain inalcoholic nostrum venders to create a prejudice against a preparation with a spirituous basis, can affect it. The public recognize in it a safe, agreeable and comprehensive alterative and an invaluable general tonic; a speedy remedy for malarious disorders, and their most reliable preventive. Its reputation is founded, as it were, upon a rock.

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259 Tape Worm 259

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, November 20, 1875.

The week closed without material change in the money market. The banks continue to supply the needs of their customers quite liberally when the security is satisfactory. There is not a very heavy demand and the amount of outside paper is limited. The banks are not anxious to extend their discount operations, but are disposed to augment their strength in order to be better prepared to meet any extra demands that may arise toward the close of the year. The condition of monetary affairs throughout the country is described as being easy, with money plenty and paper in fair supply, but it is not all of a quality which is known to be strong and sure to be paid. The recent and current failures have not had the effect to put a stop to discounting, but lenders are learning to discriminate between paper which is supposed to be good without any special reason why it should be so to rely upon, and that which is really known to be good. This tendency to discrimination limits, for the time, the transactions of the banks, without, however, materially changing rates. Strictly choice business paper is scarce, mainly for the reason that there is not enough of business doing of legitimate business character, namely, based on goods sold and delivered, to create such paper. Rates for money here are easy; a few call loans were made at 6@7 per cent. on collateral security; prime sixty to ninety day bills were generally done at 8@9 per cent., with occassionally a loan on exceptionally good bills as low as 7 per cent. at the banks; there was not much done in loans outside of the banks, and rates were nominal at 9@11 per cent. The report of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending Saturday, November 20, is as follows:

Exchanges	$4,838,673 10
Balances	832,488 95
Total	$5,688 162 05
Week ending November 13	5,456,974 09
Week ending November 6	5,170,371 74

In local stocks and securities there is little news to report. We give the closing prices for gold and government bonds at the banks to-day:

	Bid.	Asked		Bid.	Asked
Gold	114¼	114⅝	5-20's, '65, c n	120	120¼
Currency 6's	123½	124	5-10's, '67, r	121¾	122
6's, 1881, r	125½	126	5-20's, '67, c	122¾	123
6's, 1881, c	123	123½	5-20's, '68, r	121¾	122
5-20's, 1864, r	119⅝	.....	5-20's, '68, c	122¾	123
5-20's, 1864, c	119⅝	.....	10-40's, r	116	116½
5-20's, 1865, r	120	.....	10-40's, c	116½	117
5-20's, 1865, c	120	.....	5-20's, '69, r	121¾	122
5-20's, 1865, r, registered	121¾	.....	5-20's, '69, c	122¾	123
5-20's, 1865, c, registered	121¾	.....	5-20's, '70, r	122¾	123
5-20's, 1865	122¾	.....	5-20's, '70, c	122¾	123
10-40's, coupon	117¾	.....	5-20's, '72, r	122¾	123
Currency 6's	125	.....	5-20's, '72, c	122¾	123
New 5 per cents	106¾	.....	10-40's, r	116¾	117
Western Union Tel	75¾	75⅞	10-40's, c	116¾	117
Quicksilver	35	35¼	Pacific Mail	40¾	40⅞
Pacific Mail	40¾	40⅞	Adams Express	101½	102
Adams Express	101½	102	Wells-Fargo Ex	71¾	72
American Express	70¼	70½	U. S. Express	49¼	.....
U. S. Express	49¼	.....	New York Central	106½	106¾
New York Central	106½	106¾	Erie	15¾	16
Erie	15¾	16	Michigan Central	60	61
Michigan Central	60	61	Michigan Southern	61¾	61½
Michigan Southern	61¾	61½	Chic. & Pittsburgh	.....	.....
Chicago & Northwestern	.....	.....	Chicago & Northwestern	38¾	38¾
Do preferred	38¾	38¾	Do preferred	65¾	65¾
Rock Island	65¾	65¾	Rock Island	104¾	104¾
St. Paul	104¾	104¾	St. Paul, common	35⅜	35¾
Do preferred	35⅜	35¾	Do preferred	90¾	90¾
Wabash	90¾	90¾	Wabash	.....	8¾
Ohio & Mis.	8¾	8¾	Ohio & Mississippi	18¾	18¾
Union Pacific	73¾	73¾	Union Pacific	72¾	73
Hannibal & St. Jo	24	.....	Hannibal & St. Jo	.....	24
Atlantic & Pacific, pref'd.	.....	.....	Atlantic & Pacific	.....	4¾
C., C. & I. C.	43	43½	Indiana Central	43½	44
Missouri Pacific	12¾	12¾	Missouri Pacific	12¾	12¾
South Carolina, Apr	31	.....	South Carolina, Jan	.....	.....
South Carolina, July	31	.....	South Carolina, July	.....	.....
Missouri 6's	102½	.....	Missouri 6's	.....	.....

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

November 20, 1875.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	114¼	114⅛	114⅛	114⅛	114⅛
U. S. 6's, 1881, coupons	123	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1865	116	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1865, reg	120¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1867, registered	121¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1867	120¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1868	122¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
10-40's, coupon	117⅛	.....	.....	.....	.....
Currency 6's	125	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 5 per cents	106¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
Western Union Tel	.....	75⅞	75⅞	75⅞	75⅞
Quicksilver	.....	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Pacific Mail	.....	40⅝	40⅝	40¾	40¾
Adams Express	.....	.....	101½	.....	.....
Wells-Fargo Ex	.....	.....	71¾	.....	.....
American Express	.....	.....	70¼	.....	.....
U. S. Express	.....	.....	49¼	.....	.....
New York Central	106½	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erie	15⅝	15⅝	16	16	16
Michigan Central	60	60½	.....	.....	.....
Michigan Southern	61¾	61¾	61¾	61½	61½
Chic. & Pittsburgh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicago & Northwestern	.....	.....	.....	38¾	38¾
Do preferred	.....	.....	.....	65¾	65¾
Rock Island	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
St. Paul, common	.....	35⅜	35⅜	35⅜	35⅜
Do preferred	.....	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾
Wabash, common	.....	.....	.....	.....	8¾
Ohio & Mis.	18¾	.....	18¾	18¾	18¾
Union Pacific	73¾	73¾	72¾	73	73
Hannibal & St. Jo	24	.....	.....	.....	.....
Atlantic & Pacific, pref'd.	.....	.....	.....	.....	4¾
C., C. & I. C.	43	43⅛	43⅛	43⅛	43⅛
Missouri Pacific	12¾	.....	12¾	12¾	12¾
South Carolina, Apr	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Carolina, July	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri 6's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

—The following review of the New York money and stock market for the past week is furnished by Messrs. Trask & Stone, bankers and brokers, No. 7 New street, New York:

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

There has been little of moment to note in financial matters during the past week. Prices of stocks have been generally maintained, with a tendency toward higher quotations, though no particular advance has been recorded.

The continued reports of improved feeling in commercial and financial circles would exert a more decided effect upon stocks, were it not for the uncertainties still attending the position of Union Pacific, awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court; for though the public generally holds very little of this stock, yet it is feared that in case an adverse opinion other stocks will be affected temporarily, and so operators prefer to wait.

The arrangements lately made by the Lake Shore with the Michigan Central and other roads, to "pool" their earnings, has materially strengthened the stock of the former road, and with increasing business the finances seem to warrant higher prices.

Pacific Mail has attracted much attention, owing to its complications with the Panama Railroad Company, the latter having threatened to put on a new opposition line of steamers. The Pacific Mail interest sued out an injunction restraining them from doing this. It is difficult to tell how much of this is real, and how much fictitious, and done merely for speculative purposes.

The change in the directory of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad has imparted more confidence to the holders of its securities, and a small advance has been made.

Gold has been excited by rumors of war with Spain, counteracted, however, in part by the decline in the Bank of England rate.

—We gave a decision of the United States Supreme Court the other day relative to the duty of banks, in reference to bills of lading attached to time drafts, to the effect that in absence of instructions to the contrary, it was within the province of the bank to surrender the bill or lading to the consignee upon acceptance of the draft. We learn that this decision has been confused by some of our readers with another decision of the same tribunal which was summarized in the COMMERCIAL of the following day, to the effect that when a bank has discounted a bill of exchange drawn on time against a shipment of grain, and taken a bill of lading consigning the grain to an officer of the bank, the title to the grain becomes vested in the bank; that the delivery of the grain to the owner of the elevator for purposes of storage vests him with no authority to sell the grain to a third party; and that such purchaser, however innocent, acquires no title, and is responsible to the bank for the value of the grain. While the manner in which the points so decided are given makes them liable to confusion, the rulings were upon separate cases, and settle distinct questions; though in the case of the National Bank of Commerce of Boston vs. the National Bank of Memphis, the point decided in the other case was incidentally affirmed by the court. We extract from the official report of the case named the vital paragraph of the decision:

"Without discussing in detail the several assignments of error, it is sufficient that the necessities of this case to say it was a mistake to charge the jury as they were charged, that "in the absence of any consent of the owner of a bill of exchange, other than such as may be implied from the mere act of depositing for collection" a bill of exchange with a bill of lading pasted or attached to a bill of exchange, the bank so receiving the two papers for collection would not be authorized to separate the bill of lading from the bill of exchange and surrender it before the bill of exchange was paid." And again, there was error in the following portion of the charge: "But if the Metropolitan Bank merely sent to the defendant's bank the bills of exchange with the bills of lading attached for collection, with no other instructions, either expressly or implied from the past relations of the parties, they would not be so justified in surrendering (the bills of lading) on acceptance only." The Bank of Commerce can be held liable to the owners of the drafts for a breach of duty in surrendering the bills of lading on acceptance of the drafts only after special instructions to retain the bills until payment of the acceptances. The drafts were all time drafts. Only, it is true, was drawn at sight, but in Massachusetts such drafts are entitled to grace.

—In connection with the advance in westward freights from New York on Monday, an advance has also been made in the corresponding rates from Baltimore. The alteration in Pittsburgh rates is not very material, it having tariff being thirty-three cents per hundred pounds on firstclass freights, thirty cents on second class, twenty-six cents on third class, twenty-two cents on fourth class and fifteen cents on special freights, which is from five to ten cents below the rates now in force at this point. The change is mostly one of two cents advance on the higher classes of freight from Baltimore without material change on specials. We learn as yet of no change in the rates from Philadelphia westward, or on freights from the West to the seaboard.

(By Associated Press.)

Gold Closed at 114¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, November 20.—Money closed at 4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6@8 per cent. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $257,000. Customs receipts $120,000. Clearings $67,097,000. Sterling at 483½@487½.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 114¾ and closed at 114¾, all sales of day being at these figures. Rates paid for carrying, were 1@1¼ per cent.; loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds closed firm. In railroad bonds there was an active business. Central Pacific advanced to 106¾. San Joaquin branch to 89 and Union Pacific firsts to 102¾. Hannibal and St. Joseph convertibles was especially active and advanced to 82¾, with closing sales at 82¼@83. State bonds quiet and prices nominal. The stock market opened in an oscillating way, became steady at, closed quiet and steady, with an improvement from the lowest point of the day of from ¼ to 1½ per cent. Hannibal and St. Joseph preferred rose from 35¾ to 36¾. Michigan Central from 62¾ to 63¾. Union Pacific from 72¾ to 73½. Pacific Mail from 40 to 40⅝. Hannibal and St. Joseph common from 23½ to 24¼. St. Paul from 35¼ to 35¾. Northwestern from 38¾ to 39. Rock Island from 103½ to 104. The other changes were not important. Transactions aggregated 75,500 shares, of which 15,500 were Lake Shore shares, 4,900 Northwestern, 10,000 Pacific Mail, 2,700 St. Paul common, 1,700 preferred, 2,800 Ohio and Mississippi, 10,000 Western Union and 4,000 Union Pacific.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
W. U. Telegraph	75¾	N. J. Central	104½
Pacific Mail	40½	Rock Island	104¾
Adams Express	101½	Toledo & Wabash	8¼
Wells Fargo Ex	71¾	Do preferred	17
American Ex	69½	Fort Wayne	97½
United States Ex	49	Toledo Pref	92
New York Central	106½	Do preferred	27
Erie	16	Chicago & Alton	93¼
Do preferred	34	Do preferred	103
Harlem	132½	Ohio & Mississippi	18
Do preferred	139	Indiana Central	43
Mich. Central	62¾	Bur'ng'n & Quincy	112
Cleveland & Pitts	89	Hannibal & St. Jo	24¼
Lake Shore	61¾	Delaware & Lack	119½
Illinois Central	92	Atlantic & Pac Tel	18¾
Northwestern	39¼	Union Pac. stock	73½
Do preferred	52¾	Central Pac. bds	106¾
St. Paul	35¼	Union Pac. bds	103¾
Do preferred	65¾		
GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	123	New 5's	106¾
5-20's, 1865	116	10-40's	116¾
5-20's, 1865, new	120¾	10-40's coupons	117¾
5-20's, 1867	122¾	Currency 6's	125
5-20's, 1868	122¾		
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	47¾	Virginia, old	37¾
Tennessee, new	47	Missouri 6's	102¾
Virginia, new	47		

LONDON, November 20, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 94 15-16; for account 95. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 107½; 1867, 107½; 10-40's, 103⅝; new 5's, 104¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 94; Erie 14½; preferred 28.

PARIS, November 20.—Rates 65 francs 20 centimes.

FRANKFORT, November 20.—United States bonds—New fives, 96½.

NEW ORLEANS, November 20.—Gold 114¾; Sight ¼ discount. Sterling—Commercial 547½@548½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, November 20, 1875.

The week's trade closed with a moderate degree of activity in nearly all branches of business, but showing a decrease in the volume of trade done during October. The week's business, while on the whole it could not be termed dull, shows that there is a noticeable lull in many departments of business which can expected to continue until the holiday trade commences, and the probabilities are that while the business of that season will be much in excess of last year, when trade was paralyzed by the lock-out, it will fall short of that of the years immediately extravagant preceding the panic. The commercial situation at present, however, is not an unsatisfactory one, resting as it does upon a substantial basis, and showing a gradual, steady though slow progress toward improvement and permanent activity.

Public attention is at present being directed in a very marked degree to the dishonest doings of a number of our commission houses, who by finished rascality and unlimited rapacity, are rendering the name of Pittsburgh merchants a reproach all throughout the West, wherever slippers have been so unfortunate as to have experience with them. In the *Chronicle* of this evening gives the following substantially correct account of their plan of operations:

An immense number of circulars are printed, giving market quotations, and are sent all over the country. These quotations are in many cases *purposely false and colored* in their favor to the article quoted, and sometimes an additional half for consignments is thrown in. Under the deception of these reports from the seaboard ports for the week ending last Saturday were very large of meats but smaller of lard than during the corresponding week last year. It is probable, however, that foreign buyers of lard are simply waiting for the bottom to be reached, when they will buy with more liberality. The market closes with a fair demand for most articles for current consumption, but without much speculative activity."

Groceries.

Groceries were rather quiet during the day closing a moderate week's trade. Values were quotably unchanged, as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Sugars.*	
Fancy Rio	25 c	Standard A	10¼c
Choice Rio	25 c	Standard B	10¼c
Prime Rio	24 c	Do. Golden	10 c
Good Rio	23 c	Extra C—yellow	9½c
Java	34 c	Do. yellow	9¾c
Roasted Coffees.		Franklin, B	10¼c
Rio, in papers	29@29c	Cut Loaf	12¾c
Rio, in bulk	25@25c	Crushed	11¾c
Java, in papers	36 c	Powdered	11¾c
Java, in bulk	33½c	Granulated	11½c
Teas.		Confectioners' A	11¼c
Young Hyson	50@2 00	Str'y ch. N. O. new	7 70c
Gunpowder	80@1 25	Prime	70c
Imperial	80@1 00	Good	65c
Japan	85c@1 00	*Syrups.*	
Oolong	35@1 00	Ex. white bbls	70c
Fancy	1 00	Sugar drips	60c
Souchong	2 c@ 85	Lower grades	35@50c
Rice.		*Spices.*	
Choice Carl'a	8¼c	Pearl	5 c
Patna	7¼@8c	Silver gloss	6½c
Rangoon	7¼@7½c	Corn	9 c
Spices.		*Soaps.*	
Cloves	60 c	Irish soap, ¶ box	@4 25
Allspice	18 @19 c	S. S. Star, ¶ box	5 75
Cassia	33 @35 c	Babbitt's best ¶ box	6 00
Nutmegs	@1 85	N. O. Ex. Chip, ¶ box	5 00
Pepper	25 c	German mottled do	7½c
Candles.		*Soda.*	
Star, full weight	18 c	Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c
Stearine	16 c	Bi-carb, in ½ ¶ pkgs	5½c
Mould	12@12½c	Bi-carb, in ¶ papers	7 c

From the Baltimore *Gazette*, of Thursday, we clip the following in relation to coffee:

TOTAL VISIBLE SUPPLY.

	Bags.
Total stock November 17, 1875, in the United States, in first hands	190,588
Afloat and loading for United States, 8th ultimo	165,610
Purchases for United States, from October 8 to November 10	154,000
Total	510,198

STOCK IN FIRST HANDS AT VARIOUS UNITED STATES PORTS.

	1875. Bags.	1874. Bags.	1873. Bags.	1872. Bags.
Baltimore	51,200	2,200	46,(2)	25,409
New York	84,941	5,000	102,213	28,582
New Orleans	22,897	13,160	20,780	2,291
Mobile	13,500	.....	7,125	2,758
Galveston	10,000	4,000	6,507	1,300
Savannah	.....	2,500	2,000	3,000
Charleston	.....	4,000	4,000	2,000
Hampton Roads	17,050	5,409	.....	.....
Total	199,588	36,269	188,647	65,392

Total receipts at Baltimore for the last four years from January 1st to November 17th: 1875, 599,582 bags; 1874, 301,668 bags; 1873, 342,881 bags; 1872, 342,661 bags.

Total sales at Baltimore for the last four years, from January 1st to November 17th: 1875, 566,721 bags; 1874, 320,132 bags; 1873, 366,878 bags; 1872, 345,139 bags.

Petroleum—Weekly Review.

November 15.—The following are the receipts of crude for the past week, by pipe line and railroad, with a comparison table for previous years; also the exports of refined eastward by the various railroads, including the Allegheny Valley, West Penn, Pennsylvania, and Pittsburgh and Connel'sville:

	Rcts. Cnde. Pipe. Bbls.	Rcts. Cnde. Rail. Bbls.	Exp. Penn A. R. R. Bbls.	Exp. A. C. R. R. Bbls.	Exp. P. & C. R. R. Bbls.
Monday, Nov. 15	.....	1,427	.....	.....	.....
Tuesday, Nov. 16	.....	1,462	.....	.....	.....
Wed'day, Nov 17	.....	3,474	346	3,196	.....
Th'rs'y, Nov 18	.....	1,...	.....	1,...	.....
Friday, Nov. 19	.....	775	.....	1,478	.....
Saturd'y, Nov. 20	.....	3,084	.....	1,364	.....
Total for week	.....	10,425	2,371	6,209	.....
Since Jan. 1	137,000	1,070,633	26,340	362,480	219,228
To Nov. 20, 1874	.....	1,081,078	28,711	368,680	.....
Same time 1874	.....	1,404,905	116,286	736,381	.....
Same time 1873	.....	1,731,291	59,040	1,002,554	.....
Same time 1872	.....	1,096,333	112,967	550,954	.....
Same time 1871	.....	1,057,683	58,925	375,975	.....
Same time 1870	.....	997,796	102,962	354,479	.....
Same time 1869	.....	821,494	134,388	415,361	.....
Same time 1868	.....	1,428,622	170,141	611,351	.....

BRIEFNESS—There has been a very quiet and eventless week in the various petroleum markets of the country since our last report, the extreme fluctuations having been confined to less than 50@75c. About the middle of the week an advance was made, which in a couple of days carried the market up to the highest point of the week, from which a slight decline was made during the closing days of the week, the week closed at a net advance of about 25@50 over the opening prices. Refined has shown fluctuations of 5@c, closing at 20c bid, 20½c asked. Crude has not changed in the primary situation. Pipe has, however, been rather firmer, and on this may be regarded as an encouraging circumstance.—*Oil City Guardian.*

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

PRODUCE.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, November 20, 1875.

FLOUR—Steady with a moderate demand.

GRAIN—Wheat in fair demand at lower rates; No. 2 Chicago spring $1 06@1 07¾ spot or seller November; $1 05¾ asked for December; $1 06¼ seller January; No. 3, 885c; rejected 75c@75¾c. Corn quiet; No. 2, 51¼c spot or seller November; 50¾c seller December. Rye dull and unchanged.

PROVISIONS—Pork firm; $20 00 spot; $19 25 seller January; $19 75 closing at $19 50 seller February. Lard quiet but firm; 12 10@12¼c spot or seller January; $12 10 asked for February. Lard quiet at 12¼@12½c. Whisky steady with a moderate demand at $1 05¼.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 6,000 bbls; wheat, 12,000 bush; corn, 30,000 bush; oats, 15,000 bush; rye, 1,000 bush; barley, 5,000 bush.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 4,000 bbls; wheat, 10,000 bush; corn, 30,000 bush; oats, 15,000 bush; rye, 1,000 bush; barley, 5,000 bush.

	Wheat. bush	Corn. bush.	Oats. bush.	Barley. bush.	Rye. bush.
Nov. 13	77,122	293,165	4,076,026	3,327,110	3,169,078
Nov. 14	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 15	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 16	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 17	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 18	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 19	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078
Nov. 20	72,262	267,762	3,688,852	3,459,249	3,169,078

CITY MATTERS

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., November 21, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30.673	35	90	N.W.	Gentle.	Foggy.
2 P. M.	30.250	42	56	N.W.	Fresh.	Fair.
9 P. M.	30.468	32	60	N.W.	Fresh.	Clear.

Mean barometer...30.315 Highest thermom....44
Mean thermom.....35 Lowest thermom....32

The Evangelical Alliance.

We have on hand a limited number of the extra edition of the COMMERCIAL containing the full proceedings of the Evangelical Alliance, copies of which can be had at our counting room, at five cents per copy.

The Mechanical High School.

The special committee of the Central Board appointed to take charge of the interests of our city in the matter of the location of the proposed State Mechanical High School will meet during this week and prepare a plan for presentation of the claims of Pittsburgh.

Library Lecture.

The next lecture of the course at Library Hall will be given Friday evening, the 26th inst., by "Professor" David Swing, of Chicago. Mr. Swing was formerly a Presbyterian minister, but is now an independent Congregational preacher, and has charge of and preaches to one of the largest congregations in Chicago. He is an eloquent speaker, a profound thinker and logical reasoner, and is perhaps the most popular preacher in the country.

Brownsville and Redstone Railroad.

The grading of the Brownsville and Redstone Railroad from the mouth of Redstone creek, immediately below Brownsville, to Vance's mill, three miles north of Uniontown, being a distance of twelve miles up said creek, has been let. George Smith & Co., of Philadelphia, have the contract for the first six miles from the mouth of the creek, and Morrison Brothers, of Lock Haven, Pa., the balance to Vance's mill. The work on the road will commence at once.

Thanksgiving Dinners at Our Hospitals.

The ladies of the Fruit and Flower Charity intend to provide the usual Thanksgiving dinners at the different hospitals. The ROOMS, No. 134 Smithfield street, will be open for the reception of articles on Wednesday morning, the 24th, from nine to one o'clock, and the ladies ask for contributions of cash, or of turkeys, chickens, meats, oysters, fruits, vegetables and cakes to assist them in this work. Persons sending contributions are requested to have them at the ROOMS before one o'clock on Wednesday.

A Feast of Music.

The Frohsinn Society will present Flotow's beautiful opera of Stradella at Library Hall to-night, in grand style. The managers have made full arrangements for bringing it out more brilliantly than ever before. The distinguished tenor, Herr Carl Beetz, will appear in the leading role. The other members of the company are all first class singers, while the chorus consists of sixty well trained voices, and the orchestra is composed of thirty pieces. It will be magnificently mounted, and everything done to make it the event of the season.

The Investigation.

The Committee of Council appointed to investigate the charges against City Engineer Davis, of Allegheny, held a meeting in the City Clerk's office, Saturday evening, at which several witnesses were examined, but no testimony was elicted which in any way reflected upon the official conduct of Mr. Davis. The only thing developed that has any bearing on the matter was, the fact that the Chairman of the committee, Mr. Wachob, did not entertain a good feeling toward the Engineer. After examining all the witnesses present the committee adjourned to meet at six o'clock this evening.

Precaution Against Accidents.

The conductors and brakemen on the Pennsylvania Railroad have received orders, upon the adoption of the new schedule, to see that all passengers alight from the cars on the right hand side, in the direction in which the train is going. This is a judicious provision, and may be the means of averting accidents. Another order is that, in the use of the four tracks between the city and East Liberty, the two inside tracks will be used by passenger trains between Lawrenceville and the Seventh-avenue bridge, and from there the two outside tracks will be used to the Penn-avenue bridge.

The Fifth U. P. Church.

The Fifth United Presbyterian church, Rev. J. M. Johnston pastor, corner of Washington street and Webster avenue, was reopened for divine service yesterday after a thorough renovating and refitting. The services were held, morning, afternoon and evening, and at each there was a very large attendence. At the morning service the pastor preached, and in the afternoon Rev. W. J. Reid and in the evening J. R. W. Sloan, D. D.

During the time the church was closed it was handsomely refitted, a new and neat pulpit was put in, with new and better arranged gas, the floor newly carpeted and the walls and ceiling handsomely frescoed by John T. Brown & Co.

A Life Saving Invention.

Dr. James H. O'Brien, of this city, has just received a patent on a new mode of attaching horses to shafts so as to prevent runaway accidents and consequent loss of life. The contrivance consists of a strap fastened to each end of the single tree that being gently pulled by the occupant of the vehicle detaches the traces. Then as the harness are held to the shaft by a spring instead of being tied on in the usual manner, with the lifting of the strap the horse is entirely detached and passes out in a moment's time. The shaft can then be held up and guided until the momentum of the vehicle is expended. The device is so simple and practicable that a child can operate it and danger from vicious or frightened horses be altogether avoided.

Was He Guilty?

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

ALLIANCE, O., November 19, 1875.

Simple justice to an unknown man, dying away from home and friends, and under peculiar circumstances, leads me to call public attention to a paragraph in your issue of 19th inst. headed, "Died in the Harness." Also to similar notices in the Pittsburgh *Leader* and Cleveland *Herald*.

The facts are these: The Cleveland bound train from your city brought among its passengers an elderly Quaker lady, who reported the loss of her pocketbook to our ticket agents. On the way here, in the seat immediately behind this lady, sat a remarkably fine looking gentleman, of medium stature, in the prime of life, and dressed with extreme plainness and neatness. He was dark complected, wearing heavy black moustache and black hair. The lady passed on with the train. The Unknown was just as the train here moved off, lying between two railroad tracks. Lying near him, but not in his hands nor his pocket, was found the pocket book afterward identified by said lady as hers. Unknown was not yet dead when found, but all means to restore him failed. He never spoke. He was photographed, and now lies in our cemetery. Nothing by which he could be identified was found upon his person. His ticket was from New York to Toledo. Looking into his calm, dead face, one felt unwilling to believe him criminal. It is not assumed herein that he was or was not. In short, there is no evidence that this man was a pick-pocket, and to represent him as such might do him great injustice and prevent his friends from finding him. Truly yours,

JOHN L. PINKERTON.

THE GAME LAWS.

Meeting of the State Game Association.

The State Game Association met in the Senate Chamber, Harrisburg, on Thursday last, and organized under favorable auspices. The object of the association is to protect game from cruel and unlawful destruction, and to modify the game laws so as to render them intelligible. The counties of Adams, Allegheny, Clinton, Dauphin, Fayette, Indiana, Juniatta, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luserne, Northumberland, Philadelphia and York were represented in the convention.

The following persons were elected officers of the association:

President—A. B. Hughes, Philadelphia.

Vice Presidents—Robert Dalzell, Allegheny; D. W. Sadler, Harrisburg; J. B. G. Kensloe, Lock Haven. Dr. George S. M. Bailey, Uniontown, Fayette county.

Recording Secretary—B. F. Dorrance, Wilkesbarre.

Corresponding Secretary—Amos G. Bonsall, Mifflintown, Juniata county.

Treasurer—James D. Dougherty, Harrisburg.

Committees on game laws and on fish culture were appointed.

Motions were adopted as follows: To meet again on the third Tuesday in January next, when a simplified game law for the consideration of the Legislature will be submitted to the Convention; to hold meetings of the Association hereafter on the first Tuesday in October, to send two delegates to the National Convention at Chicago; to instruct the Recording Secretary to have 500 copies of the constitution and by-laws of the Association distributed among the several subordinate clubs.

HOME FOR DESTITUTE WOMEN.

Eighth Annual Report.

The eighth year of the existence of the Temporary Home for Destitute Women, presents a record differing but little from those which have preceded it. Loving kindness and tender mercy have been our portion, and we look back with grateful hearts, feeling that this charity, to which attaches so much prejudice, has never been forsaken by Him "who went about doing good." Owing, doubtless, to the financial depression which has paralyzed so many of the industries of our country, a larger number of persons have been inmates of our Home the past year than heretofore. Three hundred and four adults and one hundred and twenty-nine children have received the benefits we have to offer, for periods ranging from the shelter of one night to two months or more, as circumstances have seemed to indicate. During the year, one hundred and eight women have been dismissed to service. In many instances situations have been obtained for them through the exertions of managers of the Board. Eighty travelers, including many children, have been well cared for until their journeys could be continued. Some of these have left pleasant memories behind them. More prosperous days had been the lot of many of them, and their superiority to the general class of inmates made an attractive episode in the Home life. Eleven girls and four children were transferred to "The Sheltering Arms" in Wilkinsburg; fifteen inmates were sent to the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, and nine to the City Poor Farm. Four children were admitted to the Home for the Friendless, one to the Allegheny Orphan Asylum, one to Passavant's Child's Hospital, and one to the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum. Others have gone to service for themselves, or to receive more permanent assistance than we are able to give. We can truly say of our Home that it has been "a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat." Its *temporary* character is one reason why the public feels so little interest in it. By many, the institution is regarded as merely a lodging house, well enough so far as it goes, but they cannot realize the permanent good effected. Our answer to all cavilers is, "We endeavor to surround the inmates with the influences of a Christian home. No food is tasted until the Giver of all good is thanked, and the blessing implored. Twice each day the faithful matron kneels with her promiscuous family at the Mercy Seat, and there commends each one with all her sins and sorrows to the Father's mercy. We know not what motive brings many of these wandering feet to our door, but we open it wide to all applicants, though they tarry but a night, hoping that impressions may be received which will open to some of them the door of the Heavenly Home, where a place is prepared for them as well as for us. We say with deep regret, that our opportunities to do a great work are far in excess of our ability. However, we wait patiently, confidently expecting our fondest hopes to be realized. We *know* that we shall see established an Industrial Home worthy the wise liberality of these cities, for the best interests of a community demand the inauguration of measures to prevent the increase of crime. 'Tis wiser to keep the stream pure, than to labor to sweeten the waters after they have become bitter. Then let provision be made for the many neglected *children* of our sex, encircling them with the safe girdles of virtue and industry.

At this season of retrospect we recall much that is pleasant, yet some regret mingles with it. In glancing over our roll we miss two names which long had a place there: Mrs. E. B. Hodges and Miss M. Little. The loss of these efficient managers is much felt in our work. That we still retain our excellent matron is a source of gratitude. The faithful discharge of her duties has secured the confidence and esteem of the managers, and her patient efforts in behalf of the inmates are often met with warm appreciation. With special pleasure we bear testimony to the valuable services of Dr. Foster. It is safe to say his duties are never of a pleasing character, yet his task has not interfered with their prompt discharge. Can more be said for this conscientious physician who honors his noble profession by giving, "without money and without price," to the poor, degraded and repulsive his best efforts. How many Christian friends have conducted our Sabbath services! Not despising the small and uncultured audience, they have proved themselves worthy followers of their blessed Master, who consented to give even one scorned and sinful woman a drink of living waters. To monthly contributions of household supplies and money have enabled us to maintain with every needed comfort a large family, when all classes in the community have felt the stringency of the times. We also acknowledge, with many thanks, the courtesy of railroad officials and the kindness of trustees and directors of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital. To the Fruit and Flower Charity we are largely indebted for vegetables, fruits and flowers. How like angel ministrant influences flowing from this sweet and gracious "ministry of flowers" none are more fraught with blessing than those which come from the Child's Chatham Street Home. Some may ask if these flowers are not intended for the sick poor in hospitals and close apartments? This is true, but they have a place, too, where are gathered the outcast and forsaken. We have read how a bunch of violets dropped into the lap of an abandoned woman as she sat in utter dejection on a door-step, brought to her mind with such vividness the days of purity and innocence when she had gathered these babe-eyed treasures in their native woods, that she turned with horror and disgust from the sins which had held her in their iron grasp, and returned to the home of her childhood, "a brand plucked from the burning." We know not what memories may cluster in the hearts of roses, or what associations may be recalled by their fragrance! We bless the "Flower Charity" for sending us these messengers of God, whose silent teaching may do what words have failed to accomplish. We believe with one of our poets that "every flower has a heart of sympathy." Sensibilities may be blunted and warped by sin and sorrow, and suffering, but in every breast there is a chord which will vibrate to the touch of the Master hand. We believe there is a period in every life, when a ready response would be yielded to the tender appeal, "Daughter give me thine heart," were the Master's voice only recognized. Shall it be your privilege and mine to lead some wandering soul within sound of that voice? May new views of our duties be revealed to us. Let no "grudged service" be brought to our work, but let us welcome the opportunity to win back "those who have wandered far away from the shelter of the fold."

Think not that He who noteth even the fall of a sparrow is unmindful of *them*, for "Far more precious surely, than the birds that sing

Is a Father's image to a Father's eye."

M. H. MAGOFFIN, Secretary.

November 11, 1875.

Mattie A. Sterling, in account with "Temporary Home for Destitute Women."

To cash on hand Nov. 12, 1874	$ 22 04
To annual subscriptions and collections	294 35
To interest on investments	985 40
To donations from "Haihman Fund"	201 60
To special contributions	80 40
To fines and fees of managers	17 10
To interest on money	24 15
To bequest of Mrs. Gillespie	10 00
Total	$1,635 04
CR.	
Paid for household expenses	$ 654 59
Paid for incidental expaces	8 40
Paid for insurance	37 50
Paid for salaries	363 50
Paid for repairs	38 65
	$1,102 64
Nov. 11, 1875. Balance, cash on hands	532 40
	$1,635 04

Examined and found correct.

M. A. E. ROWLEY, Auditor.

MURRAY AND MYERS.

They Hear Their Death Warrants Read.

Sheriff Hare, on Saturday morning, received the warrants for the excution of Frederick Myers and William Murray, who killed Gottleib Wahl, and are to be executed on the 6th of January next. The warrants are directed to Sheriff Hare, "or his successor in office." As Mr. Hare retires on the 3d of January, the unpleasant duty will devolve on Sheriff Fife.

Saturday afternoon, Sheriff Hare and Deputy Sheriff Cluley visited Warden Smith's office, for the purpose of reading the warrants to the condemned men. Myers was first brought in, and heard his doom with seeming composure. The Sheriff expressed regret at having to discharge so sad a duty, but Myers said "It makes no difference. I'm ready for it." At the same time he denied that he had killed Wahl, or was guilty of murder. He was then taken back to his cell.

Murray was next brought in, but Sheriff Hare was so much affected that he handed the document to Mr. Cluley, who read it, the prisoner listening attentively. At the close, he asked Cluley if he was the Governor, and was told that he was not. The Sheriff promised to do all he could for Murray, while he remained in office, and the condemned man replied, "All right; come to-morrow or Monday, I may want something.'. Both men maintained their composure in a remarkable degree, but they doubtless felt the situation more keenly than their appearance indicated.

Fire in Skunk Hollow.

The alarm of fire shortly before five o'clock yesterday morning was caused by the burning of a two story frame dwelling on Laurel avenue near Thirty-third street in the Thirteenth ward. The fire department was promptly on the ground but there was much difficulty in procuring water and only one plug stream could be used. The tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad prevented the engines being placed in a convenient position and the nearest plug was found nearly covered up with dirt. The house was almost utterely destroyed, but was not valuable. It was owned by John O'Hannan and occupied by John Jones and a widow named Powers. The loss was about $250.

THE Blair Iron and Steel Works, at Glenwood, owned by Foster, Struthers & Co., were sold by the Sheriff, on Saturday, at the suit of Thomas S. Blair and wife. Mr. Wetmore was the purchaser.

THE RAILROAD CONVENTION.

Meeting at St. Louis on Tuesday—The Pennsylvania Delegates with Col. Thos. A. Scott.

The National Railroad Convention to meet in St. Louis on Tuesday, 23d inst. promises to be largely attended by Pennsylvanians, especially from Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The Philadelphia delegates arrived in this city in company with Col. Thos. A. Scott at 5:10 Saturday evening on a special train running ahead of the Limited Mail and leaving the West Philadelphia station at 7:30 in the morning. The train consisted of President Scott's private car and three Pullman sleepers. At our Union Depot delegates, whose names have already been published, were taken on board and after a short delay the train proceeded west over the Panhandle road.

The commissions of the delegates appointed by Governor Hartranft contains the following:

AND WHEREAS, The people of the several States and Territories have been cordially invited to appoint, through their Governor, municipal authorities, etc., delegates to attend and participate in its proceedings, I deem it entirely proper that the great mining, manufacturing and business interests of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should be represented by delegates who will attend and confer with the people of the South and Southwest upon this subject.

The delegates appointed by Governor Hartranft are as follows:

Hon. M. McMichael,	Hon. M. Fox,
Hon. James Pollock,	Hon. William Bigler,
Col. John A. Wright,	Hon. J. P. Wetherill,
Frederick Fraley, Esq.,	A. L. Snowden, Esq.,
Hon. M. Hall Stanton,	E. H. Williams, Esq.,
Jas. M. Swank, Esq.,	George F. Baer, Esq.,
Hon. A. G. Curtin,	D. J. Morrell,
Hon. A. G. Reeves,	J. Irwin Sassin, Esq.,
Wm. C. Buck, Esq.,	George H. Boker, Esq.,
Jas. I. Bennett, Esq.,	Frank Jones, Esq.,
J. W. Claflant, Esq.,	Percy S. Edge White, Esq.,
Hon. W. M. Kaufman,	H. McCormick, Esq.,
Hon. John Wood,	Hon. Asa Packer,
Dan'l O. Hiltner, Esq.,	John Fritz, Esq.,
Thos. Beaver, Esq.,	Michael Schall, Esq.,
Andrew Pardee, Esq.,	C. Tower, Esq.,
Jas. Westerman, Esq.,	Hon. Ed. McPherson,
W. G. Case, Esq.,	Hon. G. D. Coleman,
Benj. Haywood, Esq.,	Samu'l J. Reeves, Esq.,
David E. Small, Esq.,	C. S. Kauffman, Esq.,

Yesterday a number of prominent persons from the East, not delegates, passed through the city to witness the proceedings.

ACCIDENT AT SOHO FURNACE.

Three Men Burned—One to Death—Break in the Furnace the Cause.

At about a quarter of five o'clock yesterday morning, an accident occurred at Soho Furnace which caused the death of one man and the serious injury of two others. The Soho Furnace is owned by Moorhead & Co., and is situated south of Second avenue, in the Fourteenth ward, near what is known as Soho. At the time stated there were two employees, Michael Hilpin and Edgar Crowder, and a city policeman named Jacob Bruner, standing nearly in front of the op hole of the furnace. Halpin was in front of the hole, Crowder was to one side, leaning against an iron post with his back, it would appear, toward the furnace. The police officer had just come in and was speaking to Crowder. A break occurred in the furnace next to the right of the tap hole and the molten iron rushed and spurted out, knocking the two employees down and striking the policeman also. Halpin was carried some feet by the steam and was horribly burned. Other employees rushed to his assistance and were nearly plunging into the stream of metal which was pouring out. Bruner stopped them however, and at his suggestion they promptly threw out sand and rescued their unfortunate comrade. It was evident then that the poor man could not live. Crowder was severely burned on the back from the head down, and but slight hopes for his recovery are entertained. Bruner, the policeman, was severely burned in the face and breast, but not dangerously. Physicians were promptly sent for, and in the meantime the unfortunate men were taken to their homes. Halpin lived at the rear of the works, and Crowder lives on Second avenue, also near by. Bruner lives on Erin street, in the Eleventh ward. Halpin, after suffering terribly, died about nine o'clock, four hours after the accident. Crowder was still living last evening, but was still in danger. Bruner, although an elderly man, will survive. Halpin leaves a large family. An inquest was held by Coroner Kennedy, and resulted in a verdict of accidental death.

The accident cannot be accounted for, but similar strokes have recently occurred, without injury to persons, however. There were some fifteen tons of metal in the furnace at the time.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Supreme Court—Full Bench.

Two cases only were argued on Saturday, and the Court will rise this week.

U. S. Circuit Court—Judge McKennan.

The case of Shafer vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will be resumed in this court to-day.

The resignation of A. B. Force as United States Commissioner was presented by Attorney Reed and accepted by the Court.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

A writ *de lunatico inquirendo* was ordered to issue to T. B. Acorn as commissioner, to inquire into the mental condition of Demetro Genovese.

In the case of Mary J. Hawk vs. Alfred A. Hawk, a rule was granted on respondent to show cause why he should not pay libellant a reasonable amount for maintenance and counsel fees.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of M. F. Kimball, Wm. Moore and Richard Knowlson were appointed assignees.

Lucy Jones was granted leave to adopt Virginia Thompson.

In the case of the Commonwealth *ex rel* vs. John Wilson, return of sale by committee was presented and confirmed *nisi*.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Huckenstein vs. Franz & Riddle; Miller & Co. vs. Hamilton *et al.*; Cornelius vs. Hoffman; Knox & Co. vs. Emmett *et al.*; Nanz vs. Fuchus *et al.*; Allegheny Valley Railroad Company vs. Buffum & Co; Carroll & Co. vs. Froeb; Thompson vs. Allegheny Valley Railroad Company; Landwehr vs. Selp; Drape & Co. vs. Palmer; Jamison & Co. vs. Lane; Patton vs. Smith.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judge Ewing.

A libel in divorce was presented A. D. Balnuer against Ida Bell Balnuer, and a subpœna was issued.

Judgment was entered against garnishee in the case of Gibson Blaney vs. Daniel Weir.

In the equity proceeding of Andrew Lyons vs. Pittsburgh and Baltimore Coal, Coke and Iron Company, counsel having been notified to print the bill within ten days, and the bill not having been printed as directed, the injunction heretofore granted was disolved and the bill dismissed at the costs of complainants.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Mauch vs Crewzkamp (4); Spiane vs. Petiy *et al.*; Risseer vs. North Western Insurance Company; Whets *et al.* vs. Donahue; Baltz & Gray vs. Aiken; Blair vs. French, assignee; Huchstein vs. McDonald; Wallace vs. Paxley; Dravo vs. Hartman.

Orphans' Court—Judge Hawkins.

Estate of Letitia Gorman, deceased. Guardian discharged on petition and also executors.

John Junghans. Order of court confirming sale of real estate.

A. Waddle. James McCrery appointed guardian.

George J. Gorman and Jane Gorman. Guardian discharged on petition.

Samuel G. Steck. Application for citation granted.

Chas. Pickering. Bond of Alex. Hilands, trustee, approved.

A. A. Anderson. Robert A. Duncan appointed guardian.

Charlotte Schrempe. Order extending time for filing account.

Newton Webb. Widow's appraisment approved.

Joseph Bauer. Return of sale confirmed nisi.

Christian Jaggi. Administrator, allowed to sell real estate.

H. P. Miller. Extension of time granted on citation.

Wm. L. Black's minors. Wm. S. Black was appointed guardian.

John Daugher. Widow's appraisment was approved.

Charlotte Caldwell. Guardian's account heard on exceptions.

Valentine Lucas, minor. James B. Lucas appointed guardian.

John Lock, minor. Petition for attachment granted.

Quarter Sessions—Judge White.

Wm. Jenkins, convicted of murder in the second degree, but recommended to the mercy of the court, was sentenced three years and four months to the Penitentiary.

David Hall, who pleaded guilty to a charge of felonious assault and battery in shooting Constable J. J. Hays, was sentenced to the Workhouse for six months.

Melchoir Halsey, convicted of forcible entry and detainer, on oath of Thomas T. Scott, was fined six and a quarter cents and costs.

John Schultz, Jr., who pleaded *nolo contendere* to a charge of assault and battery, prefered by Michael McBighe, was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars and costs.

The jury trials for the term are over, and the argument list will be taken up to-day.

Partnership Troubles.

A bill in equity has been filed in the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, on behalf of Julius Possell and George Reese, against J. St. Clair Gray. The parties are members of a merchant tailoring firm, and have been in business since 1863. The complainants allege that Gray has failed to give personal attention to the business, that he has withdrawn more than his share of the profits, and has appropriated assets of the firm for which he has not accounted, etc. The Court is asked to dissolve the partnership, to enjoin the defendant from using the firm name, and from interfering with or controlling the firm assests and property; to see that an account be taken of the partnership business, and to appoint a receiver. November 24th was fixed for a hearing.

CITY SALARIES.

Meeting of the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform—Examination of Pay Rolls—Reduction Proposed.

The committee of Councils on Retrenchment and Reform met on Saturday, for the purpose of acting upon the resolution referred to them calling upon heads of departments of the City Government to report their salaries and the salaries of all employees under them. There were present of the committee Messrs. McCandless Powers and Glass, chairman.

During some discussion that occurred Chairman Glass said that the entire cost of running the city government before the retrenchment movement was commenced was about $486,000 a year, but this had been reduced nearly $100,000. The committee then desired to hear the items of expense incurred by the running of the water extension and city engineer's departments, and Clerk Morrow referring to the ordinance of councils fixing the same, read the list of officers with their salaries, as fixed by councils.

When these lists had been read Mr. Powers wanted to know what offices Councils had control of, and could regulate the salaries of.

Chairman Glass responded by saying that they could regulate all city officers except Mayor, Controller, Treasurer and Bond Clerk, which were fixed by an act of the Legislature.

THE EXPENDITURE ON STREETS.

The committee now expressed a desire to hear from the Street Commissioners who were present, and Mr. Hunter, Commissioner of the First District, was first examined. He gave the bill of expenses in his district as follows, prefacing the statement with the remark that he had no officers under him except those paid by the day:

Street Commissioner, salary per month	$100 00
Ten to twelve carters, each per day	3 50
Nine men per day	2 25
One paver, per day	3 00
Two rammers, each per day	2 00
Two raisers, each per day	1 75
Two pickers, each per day	1 75
Two tool makers, each per day	2 00
One sewer man, per day	2 00
One sewer man, per day	1 75
Three laborers, each per day	1 75
One dumper, per day	1 62
Ten scrapers, each per day	1 50

Mr. Linderman, Street Commissioner of the Second district, was next called and said his number of men and pay was the same as the First district, with the exception of one paving gang—his men and one horse and cart—less than that (First) district. It is $13 50 less cost than the First district pay. Wages of pavers and carters were reduced last fall.

Commissioner Evans, of the Fifth district, next reported. He said that the only difference between his district and the First was that he hired paving gangs just as he needed them. As to wages, the only difference is in bed-makers, whom Mr. Evans pays $1 75.

PROPOSED REDUCTION OF LABORERS' WAGES.

The Street Commissioners here held a little conference with the Chairman, at the conclusion of which Mr. Glass stated that he had been informed by the Commissioners that they can get all laborers at twelve and one-half cents a day less than present wages, with the exception of carters, pavers and scrapers, whom they can get at twenty-five cents a day less than present wages.

An informal discussion now ensued as to what course the committee should pursue in its work, when it was decided to instruct Clerk Morrow to notify the heads of the water works, city engineers, roads, and those of the street departments not at this meeting to be present at the next meeting of this committee—Wednesday afternoon of this week—ready to furnish such information as is required by the resolution of Councils on this subject. The feeling of the committee seemed to be that there will be considerable cutting down in the expenses of the City Engineer's office, as well as the water extension, by consolidating certain offices.

The committee then adjourned until next Wednesday.

GOV. HARTRANFT.

He Visits the Workhouse and the Penitentiary—Reception at the Lincoln Club Rooms.

On Saturday morning Governor Hartranft received many citizens at the Monongahela house who visited him to pay their respects and congratulated him upon his re-election. At eleven o'clock, in company with a number of political and personal friends he visited the Workhouse where he was kindly received and the party was shown through the institution by Superintendent Cordier. After dinner they proceeded to the Western Penitentiary where Warden Wright an I several of the Board of managers received them. The Governor inspected this institution thoroughly and expressed himself highly pleased with its management as well as with the conduct of the workhouse.

In the evening from half-past six to seven o'clock, an informal reception was tendered to the Governor by the Lincoln Club at their rooms on Smithfield street, on which occasion the room was comfortably filled by members of the club and a great many of the merchants and manufacturers of the city. During the short time the Governor had to stay he was chiefly occupied in shaking hands and conversing with parties introduced to him, and the affair passed off very pleasantly and to the satisfaction of all. Shortly before eight o'clock the Governor took his departure by the express train for Harrisburg.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mrs. Rachel Macauley's not very successful engagement at this theater closed on Saturday evening, when she played *Nancy Sykes* in "Oliver Twist."

This evening we are to have "Rip Van Winkle," with Mr. Robert McWade as the jolly, good-for-nothing *Rip*. His version is different in some particulars from that of Mr. Jefferson, but is fully as good. Mr. McWade has played with Rochester in this country and Europe, having won quite a reputation in the play. It will be worth the while of any ardent admirer of Mr. Jefferson to see Mr. McWade and compare the two.

Next week Mrs. Oates will give the people some of her best comic opera.

Library Hall—"Stradella."

This evening, at Library Hall, the Frohsinn society will commemorate its twenty-fifth year of existence by the production of Flotow's romantic opera, entitled "Alessandro Stradella." The principal characters will be sung by Herr Carl Beetz, (*Stradella*), Madame Benswanger (*Leonore*), Messrs. Louis J. Brecht and Paul Boehme (*Bandits*), and Mr. Raiser, the rich Venitian. The chorus will consist of sixty male and female voices, while the Germania Orchestra, led by Prof. George Toepp, will furnish the leading power. The dresses and appointments will be rich and appropriate, and everything will be done to make the opera successful. Those who have not yet secured their seats should call at once at H. Kleber & Bros.' music store, 122 Wood street.

Academy of Music—Katie Putnam.

This young lady, who possesses undoubted talent as an actress, singer and dancer, will begin a short engagement at the Academy of Music, in a dramatization of Dickens' beautiful story, the "Old Curiosity Shop," in which she will personate *Little Nell* and the *Marchioness*, and Mr. Mark Bates will play *Dick Swiveller*. Miss Putnam could not select any play better calculated to display her many-sided abilities, as the difference between the two characters is sharply drawn—one requiring the depiction of a patient, suffering child, the other an ignorant hoyden, laughing, singing and dancing. She has given the parts much study, and all unite in pronouncing her efforts therein worthy of great praise. The parts of *Quilp*, *Sampson Brass* and *Grandfather Trent* will be allotted to competent actors.

Seats may be had at Sheib's music store, No. 70 Fifth avenue.

Retter's Piano Recitals.

The first of Mr. Carl Retter's historical piano forte recitals will be given in the Art Gallery at Library Hall, to-morrow evening. Students and others interested in music should attend, by all means, as they will there have an opportunity to hear and compare the different schools of composition for the piano, ancient and modern. Tickets for single recital or the series, with the progromme, may be found at the book and music stores.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

And yet another new company, containing a large number of the most brilliant and popular stars in the variety business, will appear at Manager Aims' theater this week. Notable among them are "the big four," Lester, Allen, Smith and Waldron, whose Eth iopian acts have created a great sensation in New York; the great female contortionists, the Claire sisters; Gussie Crayton, contortionist, the Victorellis, gymnasts; James Maas, in "scenes behind the scenes;" Fannie Archer, vocalist, &c. &c. Matinees will be given on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons.

Announcements.

Kit Carson, Jr., and his company of bowie-knife slingers and pistol shooters, will appear at the Fifth Avenue Comedy Theater on Thursday afternoon and evening, and during the remainder of the week, in a drama entitled "The Texan, or the Wild Rider of the Plains." The name of the play is sufficient indication of its character.

Harrigan and Hart, with their dramatic company, will appear at the Fifth Avenue Theater for one week, commencing on Monday, 29th inst., in a play written for them and entitled "The Doyle Brothers." Any person who has once seen Harrigan and Hart in their capital specialities will need no urging to go and see them again.

Miss Charlotte Thompson, supported by W. E. Sheridan and a full company, will play for one week at Library Hall, beginning on the evening of the 29th inst., with "Jane Eyre."

The question as to which is the best drilled military company in Pittsburgh will be decided at the Exposition building on Wednesday evening, at which time there will be a contest between the Latta Guards and the Heath Zouaves.

Cutting Affray.

Thomas Stevens was committed to jail yesterday by Deputy Mayor Shaffer to answer a charge of felonious assault and battery preferred by Charles Stevens, his father. It appears that the two men got into an altercation Saturday night, and the accused seized a butcher knife and cut his father on the face and arms, inflicting seven severe wounds. The parties reside on Carson street South Side.

The Isabella No. 2.

The Isabella Furnaces No. 2 made, during the week ending November 13th, 741 1090-2240 tons of metal, and for the week ending November 20th, 770 660-2240 tons. Total for the two weeks, 1,511 1750-2240 The largest run in one day was 116 1260-2240 tons.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Greys will parade Thursday.

A SON of Wm. Gouly, a saloon keeper on Penn avenue, was run over by a carriage Saturday evening and severely injured.

THE tobacco store of John Shucks, 230 Bedford avenue, was entered early Saturday morning and about twenty-five dollars worth of segars stolen.

IT IS singular how active and obedient the average boy is these days; but it is easily accounted for when we reflect that he hasn't got his new skates yet.

THE corner lounger now dances to keep his toes warm, and curses his hard fate because the bloated aristocrat don't run heater pipes under their coal grates.

THE little girl run over on Penn avenue Saturday, was not fatally injured as reported. George Kahn, the driver of the wagon which run over her, was arrested and will have a hearing before Aldernan Barr to-day.

B. F. BLOOMFIELD, a saloon keeper in the Second ward, committed to the Workhouse for disorderly conduct, is to be brought before Judge White, of the Quarter Sessions Court, to-day, upon a writ of habeas corpus.

MR. JAMES GETTY, a member of the Washington Infantry, died on Saturday and will be buried to-day. He had been a member of the company since its organization in 1855. The company will attend the funeral in full uniform.

WM. LOUT, a boy thirteen years of age, was taken to the House of Refuge, Saturday, by officer Demmel, for incorrigibility. He was sent at the instance of Mr. Lout, who took him from the Poor House at the age of three years and adopted him.

THERE will be union services of the U. P. congregations at the Fifth church, corner of Washington and Webster avenues, on Thanksgiving day at 10:30 o'clock. In the afternoon the Sabbath schools will unite and a number of addresses will be delivered.

A PROMISING young shaver of five or six years was reading at school, one day, in that deliberate manner for which urchins are remarkable, and this was his rendering of a familiar passage: "K-eep—thy—tongue —from—evil—and—thy—lips—from—girls."

THE consolidation of the counties of Washington and Greene with the Twenty-second Revenue District, will add fifteen cigar and one tobacco factory, the revenue from which is about $3,000 per month; and nine distilleries, only one or two of which are in operation.

ON Saturday a foot race was run by Peter Hartman, Jr., of the South Side, and Geo. Brier, of Greene county, Hartman coming in about two feet ahead. The distance was 125 yards, for a purse of $25. Time, 14 seconds. Hartman and Brier will run again on Thanksgiving day, for the same amount.

THE china store of Messrs. Reppert & Williams, in Library Hall building, Penn street, was burglariously entered on Friday evening, and a lot of silverware was found next morning packed ready for transportation in the cellar. The burglars were probably frightened and left without their booty.

THE business of the Turkish and Roman Bath company (limited,) of Diamond street near Smithfield, is increasing daily. The establishment is a first class one, with attentive officers and servants, and our citizens can at any time get such a bath as is healthful and invigorating. Try the Turkish bath at the above mentioned place.

WASHINGTON and Green counties, heretofore knewn as the 24th Internal Revenue districts, have been consolidated with this, the 22d district, and Thomas W. Davis, Esq., has been appointed Deputy Collector. This is a deserved compliment to Mr. Davis, who has always been attentive to his duties and active and vigilant in the interest of the Government.

THE Pittsburgh Academy of Teachers met in the Ralston school house on Saturday afternoon, Superintendent Luckey presiding. Miss Maggie D. McCord and Miss Hannah Reese were initiated. Miss Alice Able, Mattie McClure, Nancy Bell and Mr. C. C. Forney were elected to membership. Vice President A. Burt delivered a lecture on the subject of the origin of the academy.

A MEETING of the committee of the Central Board of Education to make arrangements for the representation of the school interests of Pittsburgh at the approaching Exposition, was held Friday. Mr. Harper was elected chairman, Mr. Kohew secretary, and sub-committees were appointed. No definite course of action has as yet been decided on by the committee. It is contemplated, however, to publish a history of the schools of the city, with lithographs of some of the principal buildings, and specimens of penmanship, mechanical drawing, etc., by some of the pupils.

MARINE DISASTERS.

A Vessel Burned at Sea—No Trace of the Crew.

BOSTON, November 20.—The ship Favorita, which arrived here to-day, from Manilla, reports:

9 Oct. 1, latitude 17 degrees 50 minutes south, longitude 71 degrees 10 minutes west, saw a large vessel on fire; ran down to her, but she sank in about five minutes after we reached her; cruised about the spot for two hours, but could not discover any trace of the crew nor learn anything to establish the vessel's identity.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., November 20.—The sch